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East Asia ANNEX

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Japan

MITI To Allow Foreign Firms in Oil Refining OW251453 Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 24 Feb 88 p 1—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] The Ministry of International Trade and Industry in a major policy switch will conditionally approve new foreign entries into the domestic oil refining and distributing business.

According to MITI's Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, foreign companies planning a capital inroad into Japan, the world's second largest market, will be asked to guarantee in written form that they would secure stable supplies to Japan even in an emergency. They also will be requested to cooperate in reorganizing the Japanese industry.

Kuwait and British Petroleum [BP], both of which are reportedly interested in capital participation in Japanese oil firms, are believed to be among the immediate beneficiaries of the MITI decision made in line with the 5-year oil business liberalization policy the ministry has been pushing from last year.

After the war all of the seven international oil majors excluding BP acquired equities in Japanese companies during the four years from 1949. The later shakeup of the industry reorganized those foreign-capital companies into the present three groups, the Caltex-Nippon Oil group, the Royal Dutch Shell-Showa Shell group and the Exxon-Mobil group (including Esso, Mobil and Toa Nenryo).

Since then, no other foreign advances have been authorized under the government policy of nurturing independent Japanese refiners and distributors on the basis of the Oil Business Law and the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Law. There are now five Japanese independents, Idemitsu Kosan, Kyodo, Mitsubishi, Cosmo and Kyushu.

The Kuwaiti government tried to buy the shares of Mitsubishi held by Getty Oil of the U.S. in 1984 when Texaco acquired Getty Oil, but abandoned because of resistance by MITI and the Mitsubishi industrial group.

MITI, however, has been considering admitting additional foreign entries after its advisory council proposed phasing out the controls on foreign capital participation last June.

Nevertheless, under the new policy, complete buyouts of Japanese firms or the creation of new companies would not be allowed. Foreign companies would be urged to invest in existing Japanese concerns and the maximum stake would be limited to 50 percent of the latter.

There are a total of 11 distributors of oil products and 29 refiners in Japan. Oil-producing countries reportedly want to undertake both refining and distribution in consuming countries; and; therefore, they are expected to opt for capital participation in companies here which are engaged in both sectors.

Property Dispute Reportedly Brewing With USSR OW250153 Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 24 Feb 88 p 3—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] Whereas the Soviets sold the Tokiwacho property after the war, they took no steps to dispose of the piece of land in Minami Yamate, which is situated not far from the landmark Glover House, a tourist attraction.

It was only in October of last year that the Soviet Embassy moved to reassert its ownership over the property. According to the magazine, this followed enquiries from realtors about a report that the Japanese Government intended to buy the land for resale at a "very low price."

Thereupon, Ambassador Nikolay Solovyev commissioned Attorney Tatsuo Horiai to inform the residents that they were squatting on Muscovite property and called on them either to move out, buy the land or pay rent.

The photo-weekly FOCUS reveals that the Soviet envoy has put up signs around the site to emphasize that the U.S.S.R. owns the property and "forbids tresspassing."

The dwellers, some of whom have been living there since 1956, contend that they have the customary "right of residence." This legal ploy is frequently advanced in Japan by tenants to resist eviction.

Of the 30 houses, only 10 are listed on the ownership register, the others having neglected to carry out this formality. The city authorities recognize that the land on which they stand belongs to the Soviet Union.

Horiai is quoted by FOCUS as saying that the embassy wished to settle the dispute "as peaceably as possible."

Leading Soviet Figures Scheduled To Visit OW250453 Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 24 Feb 88 Morning Edition p 2—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] A government source disclosed 23 February that three leading figures from the Soviet Union are expected to visit Japan one after another from 25 February to May. They are Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of Foreign Ministry's Information Department, Aleksandr Aksenov, chairman of the State Committee for Television



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Japan

Takeshita Returns to Tokyo From Seoul OW251249 Tokyo KYODO in English 1153 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 25 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita returned from South Korea Thursday night after attending new President No Tae-u's inauguration ceremony earlier in the day.

During a 26-hour stay in Seoul, Takeshita had an hour-long summit session with No following the ceremony.

It was Takeshita's third overseas trip since he succeeded Yasuhiro Nakasone as prime minister November 6.

Quoted on No Tae-u Meeting OW260323 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita told cabinet ministers Friday that his talks with new South Korean President No Tae-u were held in a good atmosphere.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi also quoted Takeshita as telling a regular cabinet session he sensed a positive mood in Seoul during No's inauguration on Thursday.

The prime minister said he and No agreed at their meeting, held a few hours after the ceremony, that regular talks between cabinet ministers of the two countries should be resumed as soon as possible. Such talks have not been held for two years, Obuchi said.

Takeshita arrived home Thursday evening after a 26-hour visit to Seoul to attend the inauguration ceremony.

Takeshita told the Budget Committee of the lower house Friday that he will send Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno to South Korea in March in order to pave the way for the resumption of a regular ministerial conference with South Korea.

Takeshita made the statement at a meeting of the House of Representatives Budget Committee in reply to an opposition questioner.

Met With U.S. Treasury Secretary OW251015 Tokyo KYODO in English 1007 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 25 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita left for home Thursday evening, winding up a 26-hour visit to South Korea in which he attended new President No Tae-u's inaugural ceremony earlier in the day.

Takeshita, who was among 280 special emissaries from 80 countries present at the ceremony, talked with No for an hour during the afternoon in the first summit meeting between them.

He also met with new South Korean Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chae, former President Chon Tu-hwan, and with U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker, who represented the United States at the inaugural ceremony.

August Date Set for Takeshita PRC Visit OW261359 Tokyo KYODO in English 1204 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 kYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita will visit China, probabiy for five days, starting around August 26 for talks with Chinese leaders, government sources said Friday.

Talks are currently under way between the two countries to set the exact schedule for Takeshita's visit, the sources said.

The itinerary will be finalized when Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno visits Beijing in early May, they said.

The prime minister hopes to fly to Beijing on August 28 and to meet with Chinese leaders the following day or later after visiting such scenic spots as Xian and Guilin, they said.

Takeshita's visit will roughly coincide with the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Japan-China Peace Treaty, which falls on August 12.

He will discuss with senior leader Deng Xiaoping ways to strengthen bilateral ties and extend an invitation to Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang to visit Japan this year, the sources said.

Takeshita will also offer an invitation to Li Peng, currently acting premier, to visit Tokyo, they said.

Minister Denies Plans To Decontrol Imports OW260453 Tokyo KYODO in English 0434 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 KYODO—Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Takashi Sato Friday denied hints made by a top government economic policy planner that Japan may liberalize beef imports in two years.

The Economic Planning Agency official, speaking on condition of anonymity, reportedly said Thursday Japan may liberalize beef imports completely within the next two years and that orange imports may be decontrolled sooner.

But Sato quoted the official as telling him that what he meant was that the United States expects Japan to do so.

Sato told a news conference he is not considering a specific date for beef and orange import liberalization and added he will continue urging the U.S. side to sit at the negotiating table ahead of the expiry on March 31 of a bilateral beef import quota agreement.

The U.S. has repeatedly said it will not start negotiations until Japan specifies a liberalization timetable.

Washington has threatened to bring the issue to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the Geneva-based global trade watchdog, if Tokyo fails to do so.

Official on U.S. Bids for Airport Project OW251257 Tokyo KYODO in English 1005 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 25 KYODO—Japan will continue buying equipment and facilities for new Tokyo international airport at Narita, Chiba Prefecture, Kimimasa Akitomi, president of New Tokyo International Airport Corp. [NTIAC], said Thursday.

Akitomi told reporters the United States has made a written request for his firm to buy American-made equipment and machinery for use in the second-stage construction plan for the airport.

"NTIAC is willing to buy U.S. products such as repair machinery and kits for fuel pipelines and air-conditioning facilities for terminal buildings if their quality is good," he said.

He said American firms are making positive bids to sell the products.

Uno Expresses 'Horror, Dismay' at Apartheid OW251307 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 25 KYODO—Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno on Thursday expressed horror and dismay at South Africa's apartheid system after watching "Cry Freedom," a new film about racism in that country.

"After seeing the film, I can well understand the hatred blacks feel for the appalling apartheid system," Uno told reporters.

"Cry Freedom," a film about antiapartheid activist Steve Biko, who died in police custody in South Africa in September 1977, was directed by Sir Richard Attenborough and was specially screened at the Foreign Ministry at Uno's request.

"The Foreign Ministry must work closely with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) to reduce Japan's escalating trade with South Africa," he said.

The Japanese Government, following international criticism levied against it for being Pretoria's largest trading partner, is now pursuing a campaign to educate people about the apartheid system.

Yuzuru Hatakeyama, director general of MITI's International Trade Administration Department, also attended the screening.

Organizations Urged To 'Restrain' RSA Trade OW251311 Tokyo KYODO in English 1021 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 25 KYODO—A top official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said Thursday he asked the head of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) to restrain its activities in South Africa to counter growing international criticism of Japan's alleged indirect economic support of that nation's apartheid regime.

The official, who asked for anonymity, said the presence of a JETRO office in Johannesburg is regarded as helping to promote bilateral trade and could fuel further criticism in the future.

In a recent meeting with JETRO Chairman Shoichi Akazawa, the official asked him to restrain JETRO's activities in South Africa, which does not necessarily mean closing or moving the office, the official said.

JETRO, affiliated with MITI, plays an important role in promoting trade and investment between Japan and other countries, MITI officials said.

The office, opened in May 1961, gathers information on economic affairs in South Africa and its four neighboring nations, and has one Japanese representative and three local employees, the officials said.

The officials added that their duties are not to promote trade and investment but to gather information, especially concerning rare metal prices, because Japan has banned new investment in South Africa since 1974.

Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno is scheduled to meet top business leaders on Friday, including Eishiro Saito, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), and to ask them to restrain trade with South Africa.

Japan has raced past the United States to become South Africa's largest trading partner with two-way trade surging 19 percent to 4.27 billion dollars in 1987, according to statistics of the Finance Ministry.

LDP Official Apologizes for China Remarks OW261137 Tokyo KYODO in English 1100 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 KYODO—Liberal Democratic Party Policy Board Chairman Michio Watanabe apologized on Friday for having slurred China during an election campaign in Osaka.

On Wednesday, Watanabe said "Many people still live in holes in China because of its poor administration."

Watanabe, meeting reporters at the Diet, said he is rescinding the remark and offering an apology.

The chairman of the LDP Policy Affairs Research Council told the press conference that what he meant was aimed at convincing the Japanese voters that the LDP's policies have produced a success.

Watanabe said he was very sorry for making such impolite references to a friendly country.

He said he should have paid more respect to China's historical background, expansive territory and diversity of peoples.

Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, replying to a Socialist questioner at a session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, said that he is sure that Watanabe is a responsible politician who attaches great importance to friendship with China.

Watanabe, 64, and LDP member in the lower house, was finance minister between 1980 and 1982 under Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki. Takeshita appointed him last November to the head of the LDP Policy Affairs Research Council, one of three key party posts.

In the 10-minute campaign speech in Osaka on Wednesday, Watanabe stressed the LDP's achievements and said China has a population 10 times bigger than Japan and is rich in coal, iron and cooper resources.

Regrettably, he went on to say, China lacks money and technology, and economic conditions are slow, so that a lot of people there live in holes. This is because of China's poor administration, he said.

Official Vows No Compromises in Fishery Talks OW251357 Tokyo KYODO in English 1242 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 25 KYODO—Japan will press for at least the maintenance of the status quo in its offshore salmon fishing in northern waters at the upcoming fishery talks with the Soviet Union opening here next Monday, Fisheries Agency officials said Thursday.

Commenting on a reply by Soviet Fisheries Minister Nikolay Kotlyar to questions submitted by KYODO News Service, they said Japan will not compromise easily at the Tokyo talks, although the minister's remarks portend rough sailing at the talks.

Kotlyar said the Soviet Union will propose a new fishing formula to replace Japan's offshore salmon fishing.

He also indicated that the Soviet Union will demand a sharp cut in Japan's salmon catch quota and substantial increase in Japan's payment of "fishery cooperation funds" to help restore fishery resources.

Japan will stress the propriety of offshore salmon fishing because a ban on that fishing could spell an end to Japan's traditional salmon fishing in northern waters, the officials said.

They said salmon runs are steadily recovering.

Moreover, they said, the current state of the fishing interests involved makes it difficult to accept a further cut in the catch quota and a further increase in cooperation funds.

Foreign Minister, Iranian Envoy Confer LD252024 Tehran IRNA in English 1539 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 25, IRNA—Iranian Ambassador [title as received] to Tokyo Mohammad Hoseyn Adeli met with Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno in Tokyo Wednesday.

At the meeting Adeli told Sosuke Uno that the Islamic Republic expects Japan to continue its neutrality in the Iraqi-imposed-war. Japan should base its relations on long-term objectives, he added.

On U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 on the Iraqiimposed war, Adeli said that if the Security Council is sincere in its task, it should intensify its efforts and exert more pressure on Ba'thist Iraq. Iran expects Japan to work out a formula to ident'sy the Iraqi regime as the aggressor of the war, he said.

The Iranian ambassador turning to the Muslims' uprising in occupied Palestine urged Japan to become more active in supporting the Palestinians and condemning the Zionist regime.

In response the Japanese foreign minister said that his country pursues good relations with Iran. On the Security Council resolution he expressed concern of the international community over continuation of the Iraqi war and called for greater cooperation vis-a-vis Resolution No 598.

Sosuke Uno referring to the Palestinian issue said that Japan's policy was to continue its support to the Palestinian people.

He concluded that Japan's deputy foreign minister is to visit Iran in the near future at the head of a delegation.

Deputy Foreign Minister To Make Peace Mission OW260339 Tokyo KYODO in English 0251 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 KYODO—Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno said Friday he will dispatch Deputy Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama to Pakistan, Iran and Switzerland from March 1 to 10 to exchange views achieving an early end of the Afghan conflict and the Iran-Iraq war.

Uno decided on the mission when the Soviets announced on February 8 an intention to withdraw their troops from Afghanistan. The United Nations Security Council has also discussed a second tougher resolution to end the Persian Gulf war which is expected to include arms embargo to Iran.

Uno said Kuriyama will visit Islamabad on March 2-3, Tehran on March 5-7 and Geneva on March 8-9.

In Tehran, Kuriyama will confer with Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and hand him a letter from Uno, regarding the end of the eight-year-old war with Iraq.

In Islamabad and Geneva, he will exchange views on the Afghan issue with key officials concerned.

Komeito Leader To Visit U.S. in April OW260545 Tokyo KYODO in English 0513 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 KYODO—Junya Yano, chairman of Japan's no.2 opposition party, Komeito, will visit the United States from April 9 to exchange views with U.S. officials, party officials said, Friday.

The duration of the Yano's visit has not yet been fixed, the officials said.

The Komeito leader will also visit South Korea in May and the Soviet Union this year some time after July, they said.

Naohiko Okubo, secretary general of the party, will visit China in June, the officials said. LDP Council Chairman To Lead Delegation to PRC OW250559 Tokyo KYODO in English 0555 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 25 KYODO—A senior officer of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, Masayoshi Ito, will head a 40-member delegation to China in late April to attend a nongovernment-level forum, LDP officials said Thursday.

Ito, chairman of the LDP Executive Council, will deliver a speech at the Japan-China forum scheduled for April 28-30 in Laging, the officials said.

He will leave April 27 to stay in China for about a week and hopes to meet senior leader Deng Xiaoping, they said.

JSP Welcomes No Tae-U Inauguration OW250549 Tokyo KYODO in English 0521 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 25 KYODO—The Japan Socialist Party, in a major departure from its decades-long anti-Seoul attitude, on Thursday welcomed new President No Tae-u's inauguration and declared it will promote exchanges with South Korea.

JSP leader Takako Doi, speaking at a session of the party's decision-making Central Executive Committee, said she expects the new South Korean president to defend fundamental human rights and to free political prisoners.

JSP Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi said in a statement that the No 1 opposition party welcomes the transition of power in South Korea from military rule to a civilian government.

The statement, endorsed by the party's Central Executive Committee, said the change results from active movements by democratic groups in that country.

The JSP hopes arrangements can be made for Doi to visit South Korea, where she would seek to promote friendship and exchanges with the South Korean people in order to contribute to peace and the development of Asia, the statement said.

The party chairwoman said on February 13 that she would like to visit Seoul before the Olympic games are held there this fall.

The Japan Socialist Party, which has friendly ties with China, the Soviet Union and North Korea, has had no contacts with previous South Korean Governments, saying they lack legitimacy and are controlled by the military. The JSP will make efforts to help defuse tensions on the Korean peninsula, mindful of the history of Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of Korea, Yamaguchi's statement said.

He also said the party will urge the Japanese Government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to change its hostile policy toward North Korea and will strengthen activities to protect the rights of Korean residents in Japan, Yamaguchi said.

The party convention earlier this month adopted an action program for 1988 which called for efforts to realize a first ever visit to South Korea by a JSP leader.

The JSP lifted a ban on its Diet members visiting South Korea on February 18. Yamaguchi's statement was aimed at paving the way for Doi's visit to Seoul, political sources said.

JSP Diet member Kenjiro Kawamata will join an interparty mission to visit South Korea March 21-22. He will be the first JSP Diet member to have gained official approval from the party to go to Seoul.

Doi said at the Central Executive Committee meeting she will pay attention to whether No shows a positive response to calls for protection of basic human rights and the release of political prisoners, party officials said.

Mongolia

Batmonh, Sodnom Greet CSSR on Anniversary OW251407 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Mongolian leaders Batmonh and Sodnom have greeted Czechoslovak party and government leaders on the 40 years of the victory of the February revolution in Czechoslovakia.

Over the years of people's power, the Czechoslovak people, under the leadership of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and in close alliance with other socialist countries, have attained impressive successes in developing the economy and culture and in other spheres of social life, reads the message. It notes with satisfaction the ever-expanding Mongolian-Czechoslovak fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation for the benefit of the two peoples and in the interest of peace and socialism.

Sodnom, Fomichenko Speak on Soviet Army Day OW250515 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 24 Feb 88

[Text] The Soviet Embassy in Ulaanbaatar held a reception on 23 February in honor of the 70th anniversary on the Soviet Army and Navy. Soviet Ambassador to Mongolia Fomichenko and Mongolian Prime Minister Sodnom exchanged speeches there.

The ambassador said that the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union and Mongolia cooperate in all ways, and are enriching the traditions of friendship and military solidarity, which had been tested in the joint fight against the common enemy. The might of the Soviet Armed Forces is truly dedicated to reliably safeguarding the gains of the October Revolution and the creative endeavors of the Soviet people, and peace on earth.

The Mongolian prime minister said that the contribution made by the Soviet Armed Forces to protect the revolutionary gains of the Mongolian people, the independence and sovereignty of Mongolia is invaluable.

The Soviet units and formations on Mongolian territory at the request of the Mongolian Government are standing side by side with the Mongolian servicemen to guard the socialist gains and peace of our country, said Sodnom.

Namsray Receives Parliamentary Delegations OW260725 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Member of the Politburo and Secretariat of the MPRP Central Committee and member of the People's Great Hural Presidium, the parliament, Mr Namsray has received in Ulaanbaatar parliamentary leaders of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, GDR, Cuba, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, and CSSR. They are in the Mongolian capital for a consultative meeting of heads of parliamentary groups of the socialist countries.

Namsray informed the guests of the fulfillment of the decisions of the 19th party congress and the (?work) of the Mongolian parliamentary group on strengthening peace, security, and mutual trust among nations in the Asia-Pacific region.

Namsray highly assessed the efforts of the parliamentarians of the socialist countries for normalizing the international situation.

Delegate Addresses Geneva Arms Conference OW250527 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 24 Feb 88

[Summary of MPR Delegate Bayart's speech at Geneva Disarmament Conference]

[Text] The outcome of the Soviet-American summit in Washington meets the security interests of not only Europe and Asia, but also of the entire world. The majority of world states, including Mongolia, view nuclear disarmament as the paramount task of the contemporary [word indistinct] said Bayart.

A great significance of the INF treaty for the entire world lies in that the elimination of the means of conducting nuclear warfare lowers the dependence of international security on the so-called nuclear deterrent, reduces the chances of using nuclear weapons and helps to prevent a nuclear war. If the treaty is realized, medium and shorter range missiles will be dismantled from the territories of nine countries, and they would have no access to Asia. Having consented to scrap its medium- and shorterrange nuclear missiles from the Asian part of its territory, the Soviet Union met the Asia- Pacific countries half way in sharing and removing their concerns.

The MPR is confident that the readiness of the Soviet Union to eliminate two classes of nuclear missiles in Asia will facilitate the lowering of U.S. military presence in this region. The most important thing now is that the treaty is retified and the process of nuclear disarmament assumes an irreversible nature, said the Mongolian representative. In this connection, Bayart qualified as promising the result of the recently held Moscow talks between Soviet leaders and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz.

At the same time, bilateral Soviet-American talks cannot provide a complete and overall solution to nuclear disarmament issues, continued the Mongolian delegation head Bayart. It is imperative to step up the work of the disarmament conference and the five nuclear powers that are represented. The issue of banning nuclear weapons [words indistinct] said Bayart. The countries should fully mobilize political will and display openness and trust in relations to their partners so as to complete the elaboration of a convention and complete an effective prohibition of the development, production, and the stockpiling of chemical weapons, and on its elimination.

The head of the Mongolian delegation said the Soviet Union had set an example of such a constructive approach by advancing, the other day, new proposals for multilateral exchange of data on chemical weapons and an approved control procedure over the nonproduction of chemical weapons at commercial industries. On the contrary, the United States' decision to start the production of binary chemical weapons cannot be viewed other than as open ignorance of the will of states and nations to do away with chemical weapons, underlined Bayart.

Trying to contribute its share to the elaboration of a convention on chemical weapons, the MPR submitted for consideration working documents on the regime of eliminating chemical weapons stockpiles. Mongolia proposed, in part, the principles of equalization according to which by the coordinated [words indistinct] of the convention chemical weapons possessing states would have an approximately equal number of chemical weapons which could be eliminated by the 10th year of the convention.

An important interim move towards the global elimination of chemical weapons and nonresumption of their production could be the creation of chemical weaponsfree peace zones in different regions of the world. In conformity with this, Mongolia welcomes the initiative of European socialist countries to set up similar zones in central Europe and in the Balkans, said Bayart. Mongolia also comes out for the elaboration of practical and effective measures that would remove, once and for all, the threat of turning outer space into an arena of military confrontation.

In conclusion, the head of the Mongolian delegation noted that Mongolia supports the proposals of the Warsaw Treaty countries to comprehensively discuss at the forthcoming third session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament all aspects of the work of the Geneva conference in order to raise its efficiency.

Radio Commentary on Afghanistan Talks OW260805 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] State Minister of External Affairs of Pakistan Zain Noorani made a brief visit to Beijing as part of his series of trips to so-called friendly-with-Pakistan countries to consult with their leaders on the eve of the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva which begin on 2 March. There is reason to believe that this round of talks will be the final concluding one since the groundwork for this has been made by the Soviet decision to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan within 3 months, starting 15 May, provided an agreement on the Afghan settlement is signed between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

But the statements of Noorani made in Beijing, and also in London and Washington—which he visited earlier—prove that Islamabad wants to drag out the signing of the Geneva agreement and thus create new obstacles to the Afghan settlement. In Beijing, Noorani reiterated that his country does not recognize the Kabul government and urged that a transitional government be set up in Afghanistan simultaneously with the discussion of the question of Soviet troop withdrawal.

Acting Premier of China Li Peng and Foreign Minister of China Wu Xueqian voiced complete approval of and support for this decision of Pakistan. But observers note that this demand of Pakistan holds no water since the question of forming a transitional government is purely an internal matter of Afghanistan.

Here it is in place to recall that earlier Pakistan rejected Kabul's proposal to set up joint [words indistinct], a coalition government, but instead supported the leaders of Afghan opposition groupings who demanded that the Kabul government step down voluntarily and hand over the government powers to its armed opponents.

Pakistan did not on itself take up such a position. The American journal NATION reveals that the White House gave Pakistan instructions to postpone the Geneva talks until the composition of a future Afghan government is [words indistinct] which would fully satisfy the United States, which has high financial stakes on

the Alghan rebels. And naturally, success in Geneva would mean the loss of this capital to the White House and the withdrawal of Soviet troops would also mean a loss of (?electoral capital) for Washington because it would lose the possibility to accuse the Soviet Union of aggressive intentions in Afghanistan. Consequently, it is the opponents of the political settlement in Afghanistan who are now more than interested in the continued presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

At the same time the political opposition in Pakistan strongly condemns the leadership of Islamabad regarding the issue of Afghan settlement. Signatures are being collected in Pakistan under a petition which urges the Pakistani rulers to respond to the latest Soviet initiatives so as to create the grounds for the elaboration of a mutually acceptable agreement in Geneva.

Abdul Wali Khan, the chairman of the People's National Party of Pakistan, told newsmen that pretexts for continued armed struggle were removed following fresh peace initiatives from Moscow and Kabul. According to Wali Khan the question of setting up a coalition government is a purely internal matter of Afghanistan and its people and no foreign state has the right to meddle. And this applies particularly to the Pakistani government. The opposition in Pakistan is hopeful that common sense will ultimately take the upper hand since a great deal depends on the Pakistani leadership so that the undeclared war in Afghanistan [words indistinct] already by this year.

North Korea

South Commits 'Provocation' Along DMZ SK261252 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1225 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] The South Korean puppets deployed about 30 rascals armed with large-caliber machineguns and automatic weapons at a central frontline position in the DMZ southwest of Mt Sobang and perpetrated a grave military provocation at around 1525 [0625 GMT] today by again firing many automatic weapon rounds at our side's civil police outpost. Because of this, members of our side's civil police, who were carrying out duties at the outpost, were gravely threatened.

Such a military provocation is being repeatedly perpetrated while the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are staging the aggressive "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise clearly shows how frantically the rascals are running amok by continuously straining the situation along the Military Demarcation Line and by trying to provide an excuse for provoking a new war.

The South Korean puppets should ponder our repeated warnings and should not act recklessly.

Samaranch Says IOC Still Awaits Reply OW261151 Tokyo KYODO in English 1057 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Calgary, Feb. 26 KYODO—International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch said Thursday the IOC is still waiting for North Korea's reply to its proposal, made last July, on sharing the summer Olympic events.

In an interview with the KYODO News Service, Samaranch said the ball is now in the hands of North Korea, and the IOC will wait for the reply until the final moment. The IOC, however, has notified Pyongyang that from now on each passing day will be very important, he added.

The IOC proposed in a fourth round of talks in Lausanne, Switzerland, that North Korea hold two full and three partial events.

While South Korea agreed to the proposal, Pyongyang reserved its reply and in late August made a counter-proposal demanding five full and one partial event.

The IOC chief said he is pinning hopes on a high-level political decision on the part of Pyongyang and, thus, seemed to brush aside the top North Korean Olympic official's recent seemingly final negative comments on games participation. He added that the matter cannot be solved at the level of the National Olympic Committee (NOC).

Chang Ung, secretary general of the North Korean Olympic Committee, last week ruled out the possibility of any further talks on the Olympic cohosting issue following what he called South Korea's ignoring of Pyongyang's earlier call for a bilateral political meeting this month.

The former Spanish ambassador to the Soviet Union also said he has not yet given up hopes for Cuba's entry in the Olympics, adding he has been exchanging many letters with Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Papers Note Czechoslovak 40th Anniversary SK251023 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 25 (KCNA)—The Korean people warmly congratulate the fraternal Czechoslovak people on the 40th anniversary of the February victory and wish them greater success in their future endeavours to implement the decisions of the 17th party congress, says NODONG SINMUN today in a signed article.

The article says: The February victory in Czechoslovakia proved once again that when the entire people under the leadership of the working class party turn out in firm unity they can smash the attack of any enemy and firmly defend the gains won at the cost of their blood.

Over the past 40 years the Czechoslovak people under the leadership of the communist party have made a great stride in a historically short period even under the difficult conditions where the struggle was waged against the class enemies at home and abroad.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic put forward proposals to convert Central Europe into a zone free from nuclear and chemical weapons and strives for their realisation.

Socialist changes which have taken place in Czechoslovakia and the triumphant advance of the revolution there are the fruition of the creative endeavours of the industrious and talented Czechoslovak people.

The friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean and Czechoslovak peoples have been forged and come into bloom through a common struggle against imperialism and for the building of socialism.

In particular, the meetings between the leaders of the two countries in Pyongyang and Prague marked an epochal occasion providing a new landmark of the development of relations between the two countries.

The traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism will grow stronger and develop in the future.

Meanwhile, a signed article of MINJU CHOSON says that the Korean people set store by the friendly and cooperative relations with the fraternal Czechoslovak people and will make positive efforts to develop and strengthen them.

Closure of PLO Office in U.S. Decried SK260453 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA)—The U.S. Congress passed a bill on closing down the information office of the PLO in Washington and the observer mission of the PLO to the United Nation in New York on December 21 last year and it was signed by Reagan.

NODONG SINMUN today denounces this as a vicious aggressive crime of regarding the Palestinian people with hostility and working hard to stifle their just struggle for liberation.

In a signed commentary the paper says:

In an attempt to destroy the PLO, the United States labelled it as "terrorist." Under such preposterous pretext, it arbitrarily closed down the U.N. observer mission of the PLO to block its international activities.

This outrageous measure against the PLO is not only an unpardonable vicious provocation against the Palestinian people's cause of liberation and the world people's cause of peace and progress but also a gangster-like crime of wantonly violating the agreement on the protection of diplomatic missions to the U.N. and the elementary norms of the international law. This is nothing but an expression of the habit of brigandish aggression on the part of the United States, the habit of brandishing "big sticks" to control the countries which go against the grain with it, small countries, and lord it over them like an emperor.

The United States should cancel its unwarranted measure against the PLO, give up the criminal action to stamp out the just struggle of the Palestinian people and take its hands of aggression and intervention off Mideast area.

Daily Calls for Response to Talks Proposal SK260507 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2152 GMT 19 Feb 88

[NODONG SINMUN 20 February commentary: "An Affirmative Response Should Be Shown Without Delay"]

[Text] A joint meeting of the DPRK Central People's Committee, the State Administration Council, political parties, and public organizations proposed a North-South joint conference to those concerned in South Korea. A preliminary meeting proposed in the process to discuss in advance issues concerning the joint conference was not held on a scheduled date as the South Korean side did not respond to it.

This is due to the unjust stance and attitude on the part of South Korea's puppet ruling clique which does not want national reconciliation and unity and which opposes dialogue, detente, and reunification.

As is known, out of a desire to create a new phase for national reconciliation and unity before the end of this year, we proposed a North-South joint conference attended by the representatives of political parties and public organizations, including the persons in authority in the North and South, as well as figures of all walks of life to discuss and settle in it such issues as halting large-scale military exercises, including the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, before the end of this year, arranging multinational disarmament talks, cohosting the 24th Olympic games between the North and South regardless of the deadline set for the application for the Olympics, and discontinuing to hurl abuse and slander at each other. In the process, we proposed a preliminary meeting in Panmunjom on 19 February for this purpose.

Our patriotic proposal for negotiations is a very reasonable measure for national salvation, put forthin a very timely manner, out of a singleminded desire to turn the situation on the Korean peninsula this year, the focus of

the world, favorable to national peace and peaceful reunification and to promote national reconciliation and unity between the North and South.

As it is a just and fair proposal that has amply reflected the opinion of the various political parties, public organizations, and figures of all social standings in South Korea that oppose the animosity and confrontation within the nation and that want to participate in the cause of reunification on a pan-national basis, the proposal has provoked broad support and sympathy at home and abroad.

Not only all the Korean people in the North and South, but also the world's public opinion, highly appreciating our proposal on convening a North-South joint conference, unanimously hope that it will be realized at an early date. Reflecting on this desire as such from the people at home and abroad, on 4 February we held the second session of the preparatory committee of the North side for a North-South joint conference, discussed at this meeting concrete measures and issues designed to ensure a successful convocation of a North-South joint conference, even went so far as to discuss the composition of a delegation of our side to be sent to the preliminary meeting, and have earnestly accelerated the preparations for the preliminary meeting.

If the persons in authority in South Korea have even a modicum of interest in national reconciliation and unity and hope to realize the ardent desire of the entire fellow countrymer for peace and reunification, they should, as a matter of course, have seriously and sincerely approached our constructive proposal for negotiations and willingly responded to it.

Nevertheless, the persons in authority in South Korea have not sent any answer to it until even today when more than a month has passed since they received our letter and when the date for the preliminary meeting set by us has passed.

The South Korean puppets have adopted a very insincere and insidious attitude toward our proposal from the beginning. With a criminal attempt in mind to keep our proposal for the convocation of a North-South joint conference from having an impact at home and abroad and to make an excuse for refusing to accept it, the puppets fabricated and announced the so-called results of an investigation into the disappearance of a passenger plane, which has nothing to do with us, the next they received our letter, and then frantically kicked up an anti-Republic slanderous commotion, while launching the large-scale "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise aimed at striking us, together with the United States, thereby wickedly challenging our serious efforts for peace.

In a so-called news conference with foreign correspondents held at Chongwadae, traitor Chon Tu-hwan went so far as to take a negative attitude toward our patriotic

proposal put forth to create an atmosphere of reconciliation, unity, and reunification by convening a North-South joint conference before the end of this year and laid bare his true color of refusing dialogue, peace, and reunification by babbling that the North-South talks could be resumed probably in the early nineties.

Prior to this, a report on the trends submitted to the National Assembly by the puppet Ministry of National Unification Board picked a fight with our proposal for the convocation of a North-South joint conference. Following this, on 12 February the spokesman for the puppet Ministry of Culture and Information issued a statement viciously smearing our proposal for negotiations, thereby laying bare an attitude of refusing dialogue and reaffirmed traitor Chon Tu-hwan's theory on dialogue of the nineties.

As a matter of fact, this is a declaration rejecting our proposal for convening a North-South joint conference. The South Korean puppets' antinational act of rejecting our proposal for convening a North-South joint conference shows that they are attempting to extend the military fascist dictatorship under the facade of a transfer of power; are seeking confrontation, aggravation of tension, and war, not national reconciliation and unity, in North-South relations; and are much afraid of resolving pending issues through a national consensus.

The South Korean puppets' attitude of rejecting dialogue is nothing but a declaration of confrontation and war and a declaration of fascism and division. Because of the South Korean puppets' confrontation and war maneuvers to reject dialogue and peace, mistrust and confrontation between the North and South are being aggravated daily and a very tense situation in which a war may break out at any time is being promoted on the Korean peninsula. Which side, the North or South, needs or benefits from this situation? It is the Korean nation that will be ruined by a fratricidal catastrophe and it is only outside forces that will benefit from it. The North and South must not allow the destiny of the nation to be swayed by the interests of outside forces and we, as those of the same nation, must open ways to live peacefully by reconciling and uniting with each other, even though it is difficult to achieve the reunification of the country at the moment. As of the same nation, anyone who seeks reconciliation and unity and who intends to live peacefully has no reason not to respond to our constructive negotiations proposal.

Political parties, organizations, personages of all walks of life, and people in South Korea that love the nation and that yearn for peace in the country and her reunification must uniformly rise up in the struggle to adamantly oppose the policy of confrontation and war sought by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling bunch, to convene a North-South joint conference, and to make this year a historic year when a new turning point in national reconciliation and unity will provided.

Needless to say, the South Korean ruling bunch advocates the stand of rejecting dialogue according to a scenario written by the U.S. imperialists. The South Korean ruling bunch must immediately stop committing the treacherous act of opposing dialogue, alleviation [of tension], and reunification, which runs counter to national aspirations and the demands of the times and complying with the aggressive requests of outside forces, and must ponder our constructive negotiations proposal and convey a positive response to it.

If the South Korean puppet ruling bunch, running counter to the demand of the times, reject national reconciliation and unity, continuously go along the road toward confrontation, war, fascism, and division, it must be held fully responsible for the consequences that may arise from their antinational act. We will also make every sincere effort in the future to crush the obstruction maneuvers of splittists at home and abroad and to convene a North-South joint conference immediately.

U.S. Regrets 'Violence' in Building Seizure SK260431 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0418 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA)—The U.S. State Department made public a "statement" in connection with the fact that students of five universities in Seoul seized the "U.S. Information Service" building in Seoul and staged a sit-in on February 24, according to a report.

The "statement" said it is to be "regretted" and "unhappy" that "violence" occurs. This is no more than a scream of the aggressors upset by the anti-American sentiments bursting forth from among South Korean students and people.

No one sympathizes with the U.S. imperialists in their scream "unhappy" and "regretted".

Chongnyon Denounces No's Inauguration SK261032 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo February 25 (KNS-KCNA)—The Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), in the name of over 700,000 Korean residents in Japan, bitterly denounces the "presidential inauguration" of the No Tae-u puppet clique hell bent on the prolongation of the military fascist "regime".

The Chongnyon Central Standing Committee says this in a statement released on February 25.

The statement says:

The South Korean puppet clique's "presidential inauguration" is a challenge to the South Korean people and an unpardonable treacherous act.

The traitor No Tae-u's takeover of the puppet presidential chair from the traitor Chon Tu-hwan tells that it is not a "peaceful transfer of power" but a sinister criminal move to enable military fascists to achieve their greed for power by turns and continue the military government at any cost.

The U.S. imperialists manipulated behind the scene intrigues to improve the image of No Tae-u and rig up his "election" and are now backing him with increased zeal.

Meanwhile, dignitaries of the Japanese reactionary ruling quarters made their way into South Korea one after another to "hail" "No's victory in elections." This indicates that the Japanese militarist forces are becoming more unscrupulous in their ambition for comeback to South Korea with No as a new guide.

The statement stresses: The South Korean people do not recognize "No's victory in elections" which was rigged up with government power and money but resolutely demand him to step down from "power."

Chon's Placement on 'Advisory Council' Viewed SK261051 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 26 Feb 88

["Military Hooligans Throw Off Mask of 'Democratic Government"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA)—The "Democratic Justice Party" group of the traitor No Tae-u arbitrarily railroaded through the puppet National Assembly a "bill on the advisory elders' council on state affairs" and a "bill on preferential treatment with former presidents" the keynote of which is that the traitor Chon Tu-hwan will automatically be "chairman of the advisory elders' council", resigning from "presidency," and that "security" for him will be the same as when he was in "presidency," till his death.

A signed commentary of NODONG SINMUN today brands this as a heinous challenge to the people's desire for democracy, as tyrants' unbridled political robbery.

The commentary says:

The "bills" which prettify and praise the military fascist dictator and murderer have nothing to do with democratic development in South Korea.

The traitor Chon Tu-hwan is a target in the struggle for democratization.

However, the traitor No Tae-u and his "DJP" group staged such a farce as institutionally regarding the traitor Chon as an "elder." This clearly shows once again that No's "regime" is from A to Z a replica of Chon's military dictatorial "regime."

The course along which the "DJP" dealt with the arch criminal arbitrarily at the "National Assembly" tells that they have no intention to achieve "harmony" with the opposition parties, let alone "great harmony of the people."

There is nothing for the South Korean people to expect of No's "regime" which threw off even the mask of "democratic government."

Foreign Leaders Greet Kim Chong-il on Birthday SK261014 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA)—Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from foreign party and state leaders on his birthday, the messages were sent by Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia and president of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; France Albert Rene, secretary general of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front and president of the Republic of Seychelles; Lansana Conte, president of the Military Committee of National Redressment of Guinea, president of the Republic of Guinea and head of state; Sam Nujoma, president of the South West Africa People's Organisation; and Vassos Lyssarides, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Cyprus.

A message of greetings also came from honorary chairman of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea and former Portuguese President Marshal Francisco da Costa Gomes.

The Central Executive Committee of the People's National Congress of Guyana sent a message of greetings to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on the birthday of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Warmly congratulating Comrade Kim Chong-il, the messages wished the Korean people greater progress and prosperity.

The messages expressed firm solidarity with the struggle of the Korean people to reunify the country under his wise leadership.

Chondoist Party Discuss Tasks for 1988 SK261039 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA)—The 12th plenary meeting of the Sixth Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party was held in Pyongyang on February 25.

The meeting discussed "tasks of party organisations to adorn this year marking the 40th anniversary of the DPRK founding with a high political enthusiasm and success in labour." Recalling that the great leader President Kim Il-song in his new year address for this year set forth the central task of socialist economic construction and ways to implement it, the meeting said:

All our party members should participate in a way befitting masters in making this year marking the 40th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK a year of increasing the economic might of the country.

The party organisations at all levels should inspire party members and believers to make all their efforts to bring the proposal to convene a North-South joint conference into practice without delay.

The meeting appealed to the South Korean Chondoist believers who love the country and the nation, too, to unite firmly with the people of all strata to smash the splittist and war moves of the U.S. imperialists and military fascists and make this year a historical year to achieve national reconciliation and unity, ease the tensions and open a favourable phase for peaceful reunification. A relevant resolution was adopted at the plenary meeting.

Daily Calls for Hard Work in Rural Areas SK251038 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 25 (KCNA)—The press here today observes the 24th anniversary of the publication of "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country," a classical work of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song (February 25, 1964).

In an editorial entitled "Let Us Energetically Strive To Carry Through the Great Rural Theses" NODONG SINMUN says:

"Theses on the socialist rural question in our country" is a great program for the building of socialist rural communities.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, and secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, said:

"Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country' published by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is our party's programme for the building of rural communities and a bright blueprint for the final settlement of the rural question."

The socialist rural theses published by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a guiding program which indicates the way of final settlement of the rural question under socialism. Crystalized here are all the theoretical and practical matters for the building of socialist rural communities and final settlement of the rural question, including the basic principles, tasks and ways for settlement of the rural question.

The publication of the rural theses was of great historic significance in that it provided the absolutely correct guideline for the settlement of the rural question in socialist society and opened a bright way of accelerating socialist and communist construction along a straight path without deviation.

For its truth and unquestionable attraction, the rural theses has displayed a great vitality in revolutionary practice over the last 20 odd years.

Our party defined the thorough implementation of the rural theses as an important work for the complete realization of chajusong of the popular masses and has effectively encouraged the whole party, the whole country and the entire people to carry it into effect.

In particular, dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has led all the party organizations in rural communities to hold fast to the rural theses and constantly enhance their role of leadership in its implementation and took positive measures to press on with the three revolutions in rural communities and consolidate the socialist rural stronghold.

The great rural theses has creditably been put into reality in our rural communities. Under the radiant rays of the rural theses, the peasants' standards of ideology, technology and culture have risen constantly and agricultural production is on a rapid increase on the basis of a solid material and technical foundation. This is the proud looks of our rural communities today. The realities clearly show that the rural theses is a great program which gives full play to the advantages of the socialist rural management system, gives an impetus to agricultural production and points to the absolutely correct road to a classless society and that it is a powerful weapon of revolutionary reform with which to simultaneously carry out the tasks of remoulding man and transforming nature and society in socialist society.

Pressing on with the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions in rural communities is an important task that we should consistently grasp for the complete realization of the rural theses. Only by pressing on with the three revolutions is it possible to promote the working-classization of the peasants, consolidate the material and technical foundation of agriculture, convert cooperative property into public property and finally settle the rural question.

We should step up the ideological and cultural revolutions in rural communities and improve the peasants' standards of ideology, technology and culture at an early date on the principles set out in the rural theses.

We should work with redoubled efforts to implement the rural theses under tme leadership of the party and victoriously complete the great rural theses in the near future as wished by the party and the leader.

South Korea

Explosive Found at American Cultural Center SK260337 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] According to a report by the Kwangju station of the Korean Broadcasting System, an explosive was found at the American Cultural Center in Kwangju and the police are trying to remove it.

According to a testimony by the students who were taken away for questioning for occupying the American Cultural Center in Seoul, and for staging a sit-in there on 24 February, a time bomb was planted at the American Cultural Center in Kwangju. Conducting a search, the police, at around 0930 [0030 GMT] this morning, found an explosive—to which a desk clock was attached—at the left side of a bookshelf in the library. This explosive, which was in a white plastic container, was attached to a desk clock with black tape and was connected to a 9-volt battery. The clock had stopped at 1055 [0155 GMT].

The police, while trying to remove this explosive, are investigating how this explosive was planted.

Planted by Student Activists

SK260657 Seoul YONHAP in English 0648 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 26 (YONHAP)—A time bomb was found Friday morning in a U.S. Government facility in the southern city of Kwangju, and police said student activists had installed the device.

The bomb was discovered in the public library of the U.S. Information Service (USIS) after students arrested for their involvement in Wednesday's seizure of a USIS building in Seoul revealed plans, during interrogation, to attack the USIS branch in Kwangju.

Police said students planted the bomb Wednesday, expecting it would explode later in the day. But the bomb, a crude home-made device, proved to be defective, and its timing mechanism fined to work.

Radical students have criticized the United States for pressuring Korea to open its market wider to U.S. products, while also contending that the United States was behind No Tae-u's election as Korea's president last December. The students claim that the presidential election was rigged.

Police Searching for Culprit

SK261111 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] The explosive, found planted in the library at the U.S. Cultural Center in Kwangju and removed from there, have been found to be an incendiary-type bomb for igniting a fire. Reporter Hong Ki-sop at the Kwangju station will tell you more:

[Begin Hong recording] At about 1420 this afternoon, after locating the explosive hidden in the library at the U.S. Cultural Center in Kwangju, the police removed it, without any incident, in cooperation with a U.S. Air Force bomb squad, by using an explosive-crushing device. They are continuing their efforts to analyze the substance.

A police officer in charge of handling the explosive said that the time bomb found today was made with a Korean-made desk clock manufactured by the Orient Clock Company and 2.5 cm-thick explosive, the ingredients of which are not yet known. He said the object was connected to U.S.-manufactured 9-volt batteries, noting that what characterized the bomb was that the circuits used in the bomb were double-structure. He went on to say that the explosive was quite well-made, but did not go off due to an unknown error.

The police, noting that such an explosive can be made only by those who have a high degree of knowledge concerning chemicals and electronics circuits, said that this explosive was used to blow up something, but they guessed that it was meant to generate a loud noise or ignite a fire.

The police have decided to commission the National Scientific Investigation Research Institute for an analysis of this explosive to determine exactly what ingredients were used in it.

In the meantime, the police have learned from (An Nae-sang), a senior at Yonsei University who has been arrested today by the Metropolitan Police Department, that he received this explosive from a person identified as Kim Chol on 24 February and then planted it in a bookshelf in the library at the U.S. Cultural Center in Kwangju at 1655 on the same day after setting it to explode at 1730 that day. The police are now concentrating their investigative effort on locating that Mr Kim Chol. [end recording]

Prosecution To Arrest Students for Occupation SK260303 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] The prosecution yesterday decided to arrest all of the five student activists charged with occupying the U.S. Information Service (USIS) building in downtown Seoul Wednesday. The five students are Han Ki-won, 25, senior of Yonsei University, Kang Chong-chol, 24, senior of Hanyang University, Yi Won-pyo, 25, freshman of Kukmin University and Han Ok-pun, 22, sophomore of Ewha Woman's University.

Police are looking for three other students in connection with the seizure of the USIS building.

Among them is an expellee from Yonsei University who is suspected of masterminding the occupation of the USIS building. The expellee is identified as Kim Chol.

Under the leadership of Kim, eight students organized a squad called "youth student commandos for national salvation" and plotted Feb. 16 to storm the U.S. facility in protest against what they claimed was the U.S. policy of supporting the Korean government, police said quoting the five students now in police custody.

Police led away the five student activists about one hour after they occupied the USIS building Wednesday afternoon.

Shortly after the USIS building occupation ended, John M. Reid, USIS director, met with editors of five university newspapers, including Ewha Woman's, Chungang, Songgyungwan and Sukmyong Women's universities, at his residence in downtown Seoul.

They were said to have exchanged views on the USIS seizure, U.S. trade pressure on Korea, the Korean political situation and other issues for about four hours from 6 p.m.

No Tae-u Grants 'Sweeping' Amnesty Measure SK261212 Seoul YONHAP in English 1203 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 26 (YONHAP)—In the first major reconciliatory action, the new government of President No Tae-u Friday granted a sweeping amnesty and other leniency measure for 7,234 convicts, including 1,731 political dissidents, effective Saturday.

The president expressed hope that the clemency measure which also includes commutation, reinstatement of civil rights and parole, would provide a turning point for a grand national reconciliation, his spokesman said.

The leniency measure, described as the third biggest in the country's modern history, was approved in the first cabinet meeting of the Sixth Republic chaired by the new chief executive.

The beneficiaries include 4,214 people, who were given amnesty, 992 who were granted restoration of their civil rights, and 835 others, whose prison terms were reduced.

Announcing the government clemency, Culture and Information Minister Chong Han-mo, said the measure is aimed at consolidating the people's trust in the government and providing a momentum for national reconciliation and epochal development of democracy.

Chong, who also is the chief government spokesman, said the government action was made in compliance with the recommendations from the ad-hoc commission on national reconciliation and democracy as well as petitions from other quarters of society.

He said, however, those who denied the country's free democratic system or who were involved in radical and heinous acts like murders and arson attacks were excluded from the leniency.

A Justice Ministry official said among the 1,731 convicted for political reasons, 1,606 persons who had already been released from jail, will get their civil rights restored.

Among those who will be freed from jail on Saturday are some 100 dissidents, while some 80 other dissidents will get ther jail terms reduced, the official said.

He said the amnesty will also affect more than 3,000 criminal convicts. The total number of convicts who will have their civil rights restored will be more than 2,500, he added.

Opposition Agrees to Merger by 5 March SK260842 Seoul YONHAP in English 0834 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea's two major opposition parties agreed Friday to achieve a merger of the divided opposition by the end of next week.

Emerging from the first talks between officials of the two parties since talks broke down two weeks ago, spokesmen for the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) and the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) told reporters that the two parties had agreed to complete all the necessary procedures for holding a joint rally by March 5.

The joint rally will be held either as a national convention of a new united party or as a joint conference of each party's preparatory committee working for the merger, the spokesmen said.

The two parties also agreed to push for a small onemember constituency system during the negotiations with the government party on the projected amendment of the National Assembly election law.

The parliamentary elections are expected to be held in April.

The leadership of the new party has not yet been determined. However, sources in the two parties said the new unified party is likely to be headed by a collective leadership with rival opposition leaders Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung sharing the party's presidency.

The sources also said the two parties agreed during the negotiations, held behind closed doors, to split the power of the new party on a fifty-fifty basis.

The two parties failed, however, to reach an accord on whether future negotiations for the opposition merger would include political dissidents who have no party affiliation.

The agreement between the two parties for a unified opposition came three days after the two Kims agreed in principle to the merger during a surprise meeting Tuesday proposed by Kim Yong-sam. Kim Yong-sam resigned as RDP president on March 8.

The Tuesday meeting marked the first time in four months the two Kims have met. Their last meeting was on Oct. 29 when they attempted to decide which one of them would run in the December presidential election as the single opposition candidate. A week after the meeting, Kim Tae-chung broke away from the RDP and formed the PPD in order to mount his own bid for the presidency.

In the last presidential election, the two Kims split the opposition vote enabling government candidate No Tae-u to win with 36.6 percent of the vote. No was inaugurated Thursday, promising sweeping democratic reforms.

Since their defeat in the presidential election, the two Kims and their parties have been under pressure to realize an opposition merger, but efforts to achieve a unified opposition through a series of negotiations have failed.

The two parties have had sharp confrontations over the content of the amendment to the parliamentary election law and over Kim Tae-chung's leadership of the PPD, especially since Kim Yong-sam resigned as RDP president.

The RDP has advocated a two-member or medium constituency system while the PPD has adhered to its position favoring a small constituency system.

The two parties have also failed to narrow their differences on the procedure for implementing the opposition merger. The RDP favors a party-to-party merger with the PPD, but the PPD insists on a three-way merger which would include political dissidents.

No Tae-u, Takeshita Discuss Cooperation SK251203 Seoul YONHAP in English 1154 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 25 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Japan are expected to discuss Japan's possible cooperation in South Korea's bid to further improve its relations with China and other communist countries, when the foreign ministers from the two countries meet here next month, a Japanese official said Thursday.

President No Tae-u asked Japanese prime minister Noboru Takeshita for Japan's cooperation in his northward diplomacy during a summit meeting, the official accompanying the Japanese leader on his Seoul visit told reporters.

In response, Takeshita expressed hope that the matter could be discussed in detail, when their foreign ministers meet probably on March 19, 20 or 21 in Seoul, said Koichi Haraguchi, the Japanese Foreign Ministry's deputy director-general, briefing the reporters on the No-Takeshita meeting that lasted about an hour.

The northward diplomacy refers to South Korea's efforts to substantially improve its relations with China, Soviet and other communist bloc nations.

South Korea, which fought a bitter fratricidal war against its communist brother, North Korea, from 1950 to 1953, has no formal relations with communist nations.

Haraguchi said nothing more was mentioned regarding the northward diplomacy in the summit talks, adding details, if any, will be discussed in the foreign ministers conference in March.

During his campaign last December, No pledged, if elected president, he would seek improved relations with China and other communist nations.

No first asked for Japan's mediatory role last September when he visited Japan on his way back home from a trip to the United States.

Takeshita, who came to Seoul Wednesday for a two-day visit to attend the inauguration ceremony for No held earlier Thursday, returned home after attending the reception held in honor of No at the National Assembly.

Takeshita was the first foreign guest for No as president, and it was the first visit to Seoul by Takeshita since he took office in November.

Agree To Help Prevent Terrorism SK260231 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Feb 88 pp 1, 8

[Text] Korea and Japan yesterday agreed to set up a joint consultative body on preventing terrorist attacks during the Seoul Olympics this fall.

President No Tae-u and Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita agreed that terrorist acts like the midair destruction of a KAL jet in November pose the gravest threat to the Games.

"The two leaders shared the belief that the Seoul Games will be the largest in Olympic history and contribute to promoting world peace and harmony of mankind," presidential spokesman Yi Su-chong said.

Takeshita pledged maximum assistance to ensure the Seoul Olympics are a success, Yi said.

The meeting was held at Chongwadae hours after No was sworn in. Takeshita, who attended the inaugural ceremony, left for Tokyo in the evening.

In one hour of talks, the two leaders exchanged views on the situation on and around the Korean peninsula, and discussed ways of enhancing cooperation in trade and other fields.

Takeshita invited No to visit Japan, and No accepted, the spokesman said.

They called for early inauguration of the "Korea-Japan 21st Century Committee" so it can hold its first conference this year.

The establishment of the committee was previously agreed on between the two governments as part of efforts to foster a stable long-term relationship of cooperation.

No told Takeshita he will continue efforts to reduce south-north tension, which has been mounting since the sabotage of KAL plane by north Korea in November.

Seoul will also endeavor to induce north Korea to accept calls for resuming dialogue and participate in the Seoul Olympics, No said.

Takeshita said he supports Seoul's position and promised to do his best to foster a favorable atmosphere for the resumption of inter-Korea dialogue.

"President No and Prime Minister Takeshita expressed satisfaction at the relations between the two countries which has been steadily progressing since 1980, and concurred in calling for mutual efforts to further cement the cooperative ties," said the spokesman.

They stressed the need to develop relations "on the basis of a broader foundation," and agreed to expand exchanges among scholzrs, teachers, students and youths.

Citing "textbook incidents" several years ago, when Japan attempted to gloss over its atrocities during its colonial occupation of Korea, No emphasized that a "healthy" relationship between the two countries can be fostered only when they have a "correct understanding" of history.

No called for "balanced expansion" of trade between the two countries and asked Japan to open its markets wider to Korean goods.

He also requested more cooperation in the field of industrial technology through acceleration of technology transfer and expansion of training programs for technicians.

Takeshita replied he will try to rectify the trade imbalance and increase industrial cooperation.

No urged Takeshita to intensify efforts to resolve problems such as the treatment of Korean residents in Japan and the repatriation of Koreans in Sakhalin.

Takeshita pledged sincere efforts to improve the legal status of Korean residents in Japan and to help them lead a stable life.

Foreign Ministry Official on JSP Policy SK260938 Seoul YONHAP in English 0925 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 26 (YONHAP)—Commenting on the Japan Socialist Party's recent decision to lift a long-standing ban on travel by party officials to South Korea, a South Korean Foreign Ministry official said Friday that his government will not permit visits to South Korea by JSP officials unless explicit changes are made in the party's extremely unfavorable policy toward Seoul.

The Korean official, describing the JSP's measure as a mere decision inside the party, said the party only reaffirmed its previous unfriendly stance toward South Korea during the 53rd party congress—the same session that decided to lift the travel ban. The official was apparently referring to an announcement by the JSP spokesman that the party's friendly relations with North Korea would continue regardless of the shift in the party's stance toward South Korea.

The official added, unless the JSP changes its party policy toward South Korea, the South Korean government so far has no intention to issue entry visas to a JSP lawmaker even though he or she is coming to seoul as a member of the Japanese parliamentarian group or wishes to visit for any other purpose.

The JSP, Japan's largest opposition party, announced Thursday that a set of new policies on Japan-South Korea relations, including an end to the ban on travel, proposed by JSP Chairwoman Takako Doi, was approved at a meeting of the party's Central Executive Committee. The annoncement also said the new policies will include increased contacts with South Korean political parties as well as cultural and academic exchanges.

The JSP has refused to recognize a 1965 bilateral agreement that normalized Japan's relations with the southern half of the Korean peninsula but not the northern half. Korea was a Japanese colony for 35 years until 1945.

Korea was divided into the communist North and the anti-communist South at the end of World War II.

The JSP action coincided with the inauguration in Seoul Thursday of South Korea's new president, No Tae-u, marking the first peaceful transfer of power in Korea's recent decades.

Direct Trade With Soviet Union Increases OW231417 Tokyo KYODO in English 1317 GMT 23 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—South Korea and the Soviet Union are boosting their trade through practically direct transactions, using the ships of third countries such as Japan, trading sources said Tuesday.

This reflects South Korea's stepped-up efforts to deepen its economic ties with China and East European nations as part of a drive to make a success of the Seoul Olympics this fall.

The bilateral trade may have already approached I billion dollars a year according to information from Korean sources concerned, an official of a major trading house said.

No exact figure is available since neither country officially admits the existence of mutual trade in the absence of diplomatic ties.

Trade between the two countries started in the early 1980s through third countres like Japan and Singapore.

But third-country vessels have begun to ply directly between South Korea and the Soviet Union—mainly between Pusan and Nakhodka— in the past year with the expansion of bilateral trade.

Trade deals take the form of transactions via trading houses of third countries insofar as trade documents are concerned, the sources said. Soviet exports to South Korea center on lumber, fishery products, fertilizers, coal and other raw materials, while South Korea mainly exports manufactured goods, including textiles and clothing.

USSR To Participate in Seoul Paralympics SK242245 Seoul YONHAP in English 1005 GMT 24 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 24 (YONHAP)—The Soviet Union will participate in the Eighth Paralympics, slated for Oct. 15-24 this year in Seoul, the Seoul Paralympic Organizing Committee said Wednesday.

A committee official said the Soviet Union informed the Sweden-based International Blind Sports Association (IBSA) Monday that it will send about 30 athletes to Seoul for the Paralympics.

It will mark the first time for the Soviets to participate in the paralympics. The Soviet Union has stayed away from the Paralympics since the first games for the disabled in 1960 on grounds that it has no handicapped residents.

As of Wednesday, a total of 54 nations have applied to take part in the Seoul Paralympics, the official said. The 54 countries include China, Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia.

The official said the number of nations attending the Paralympics is expected to increase to 60 by July 15, the deadline for applications.

Taiwan's Yu Comments on Bilateral Ties OW251339 Taipei CNA in English 1107 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] [Text] Seoul, Feb. 24 (CNA)—Premier Yu Kuohua said Republic of China and Korea need each other and have the same basic ideas, so there will be much "room for maneuver" in bilateral ties.

The premier, who arrived Wednesday to attend Korean President No Tae-u's inaugural ceremony Thursday, told the ROC Embassy staff that ROC-ROK relations will develop further into "beautiful horizons."

After being briefed by leading officials at the ROC Embassy, the visiting premier said Taipei attaches great importance to its ties with Seoul.

"It is our government policy to strengthen ties with the Republic of Korea," he said.

The reasons for a further improvement of ties, despite Korea's efforts to get close to Peiping, are many, the premier said. Both countries are set to promote constitutional democracy, to begin with, he pointed out. Then there is the same "fate" as both face protectionism in advanced countries and suffer huge trade deficits with japan, he continued.

In addition, both are challenged by pressure to appreciate their currencies, he said.

So now both countries need to diversify their export markets and import sources economically, said the exgovernor of the Central Bank of China.

As NICs [newly industrializing country] are developing sophisticated high-tech industries, said the [words indistinct] premier, there will be much room for the ROC and the ROK to coopeate in addition to cooperating with each other.

Therefore, he said, it is very important for both countries to seek areas of cooperation, to develop their economic structures into complementary ones.

Turning to domestic affairs, the ROC leader said the late President Chiang Ching-kuo had laid a firm foundation for the country' democratic development.

Now with the capable Li Teng-hui at the helm, the country's democratic development will be further pursued, said Yu.

As the country is in a transitional period in its development, some "(?extraordinary)" problems can hardly be avoided, the premier said. But these problems will not pose obstacle to our national devlopment as long as we all make strenuous efforts to serve the country, he stressed.

He encouraged the embassy staff to make increased efforts in carrying out their duties which are to make ROC-ROK ties even more firm and close.

Firm Says Two Workers Missing in Iraq SK260953 Seoul YONHAP in English 0850 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 26 (YONHAP)—Two Korean workers employed at a construction site in Iraq have been missing for 13 days, an official with Hanyang Corp., the workers' employer, said Friday.

Contact between Kim Tong-kyu, 46, and Kim Chongsun, 25, and Hanyang's field office in Nahr Abu Bushut, some 340 kilometers southeast of Baghdad, ended while the two were away from the office to repair an office vehicle.

Iraqi police have used two helicopters to search for the missing Koreans since the pickup truck used by the two men was found in a swamp last Friday (Feb. 19), six days after their disappearance.

Iraqi residents reported to police earlier that they had witnessed two Orientals and four native youths in a pickup truck. Police officials said the Koreans might have been abducted by Iraqi draft dodgers, according to Cho Poong-ha, chief of Hanyang's branch office in the Middle East country.

Hanyang completed construction of an irrigation canal in Iraq worth 30 million U.S. dollars in may 1985, and the field office has been maintained to carry out necessary repairs. Kim Tong-kyu has worked as a welder at the field office along with Kim Chong-sun, an engine mechanic.

North Plans To Replace IOC Member Kim Yu-sun SK260131 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 22 Feb 88 p 2

[Article by Editor Yi Kwang-sok from the "Reporter's Eye" column: "Rumors on the Replacement of the North Korean IOC Member"]

[Text] The view is dominant that Kim Yu-sun, North Korea's 56-year-old International Olympic Committee [IOC] member, will meet the misfortune of resigning midway, failing to fulfill his tenure.

It was learned that at an IOC meeting held in Calgary, where the winter Olympics are being held, North Korea unofficially notified IOC President Samaranch that it will replace Kim Yu-sun.

Even though Kim Yu-sun's replacement has been kept very secret in the IOC, even Korean sports related figures have noticed it.

Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the North Korean Olympic Committee, was elected the 327th IOC member at an IOC meeting in Athens in May 1978.

Chapter 12 of the IOC Charter stipulates that an IOC member is a representative of the IOC to his own country, not a representative of his own country.

Therefore, Kim Yu-sun is the "IOC ambassador to North Korea."

It was known that Kim Yu-sun is the first in recent IOC history who will resign before his 75-year age limit.

The IOC officials concerned say that Kim Yu-sun's replacement has become a fait accompli because he was held responsible for his failures in sports diplomacy toward the IOC and Korea.

They analyzed that Kim Yu-sun will be replaced as he was held responsible for the facts that North Korea has decided not to participate in the 1988 Seoul Olympics and that North-South sports talks have been failures.

Kim Yu-sun is the very person who proposed, on the IOC level, forming a North-South single team for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics and holding talks to cohost the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

In February 1979, he also proposed forming a North-South single team for the 35th World Table Tennis Championships, which were held in April 1979 in Pyongyang.

The IOC has long been dismayed at Kim Yu-sun's poor language proficiency.

It is an unwritten law that IOC members should speak English and French fluently.

The IOC headquarters has always been discontent, saying, "Kim Yu-sun speaks only Russian in such a way even Soviets can hardly understand it."

Moreover, it has been also pointed out that Kim Yu-sun has been consistently rigid in coping with circumstances as an international sports figure.

A figure who is likely to become North Korea's next IOC member at the IOC's approval is Chang Ung, secretary general of the North Korean Olympic Committee.

He appeared in the international sports stage in 1978, following Kim Yu-sun like a shadow, as deputy secretary general [of the North Korean Olympic Committee].

In particular, Chang Ung has long been considered a real force in [North Korea's] sports diplomacy toward Korea. It is said that he, a former volleyball player, has the most excellent language proficitncy among North Korean sports figures.

It is also said that he has a rather westernized way of thinking. A Korean sports diplomat who knows him well said, "Chang Ung is a clear-headed man and a man of sound judgment."

Chang has often been seen talking with Korean sports figures for several hours in the international sports stage.

This makes us again recall the fact that East and West Germany were able to participate in three Olympic games from the Melbourne Olympics in 1956 to the Tokyo Olympics in 1964 after forming a single team largely because the IOC members of the two countries were harmonious with each other, transcending differences in ideology.

Kim Hyon-hui's Tutor Confirmed as Japanese SK250214 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] A woman, who allegedly taught Kim Hyon-hui, the confessed north Korean saboteur of Korean Air Flight 858, the Japanese language, was reconfirmed to be a Japanese kidnapped by agents of the Communist north, the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) announced yesterday.

The Japanese private tutor identified as Yi Eun-hye was abducted to the north aboard a ship while walking along Japan's coast in 1978, the NSP said.

The Japanese woman, who is about 31 years old, became haggard and lost weight during several days of traveling, according to the announcement.

Two Japanese investigators visited Seoul for five days from last Thursday and interviewed the 26-year-old suspect.

Before questioning Kim to establish the identity of Yi in detail, the Japanese investigators made contact with their Korean counterparts on three occasions.

Kim was quoted as telling the Japanese investigators that Yi said she was wearing a one-piece dress and carrying a handbag when she was kidnapped to north Korea.

"When Yi disembarked from the north Korean ship, she was taken to a guest house in Pyongyang in a Benz sedan," Kim was quoted as saying.

According to Kim, the NSP said, Yi herself and a housemaid in the guest house told Kim she was a Japanese woman.

All Korean residents in Japan who were extradited called north Korea their motherland but Yi did not do so. Instead, she called it part of Japan, Japanese investigators quoted Kim as saying.

"I heard from Yi that when she was a child she asked her parents to buy chima and chogori, traditional Korean custumes, but they turned down the request by saying only Korean people put on such clothes," Kim was also quoted as saying.

The divorced Japanese woman said her parents, sisters, brothers, a son and a daughter were living in Tokyo.

Yi told Kim she would not able to return to Japan unless the Korean peninsula is unified.

Yi spoke Korean so poorly that she could not even pronounce the Korean word "pokpo" (waterfall).

"While shaving, Yi once told me she was hairy because she was a Japanese," Kim was quoted as telling the investigators.

Japanese police produced 1,450,000 copies of posters titled "Do you know this woman" and distributed them to every corner of the country to collect precise and concrete information about Yi, the NSP Said.

Kim's detailed answers have led the Japanese investigators to firmly believe that north Korea kidnapped Yi, according to the agency.

No Makes 'Impromptu' Speech at Reception SK260253 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] President No Tae-u made an impromptu speech at the inaugural reception last night in the "Rotunda" hall of the National Assembly building.

He pledged to fulfill democratization in "every sector of our society at any cost," drawing another ovation from the over 1,000 people.

Then he proposed a toast, saying: "Let's melt our frozen hearts with the scent of spring coming up from Cheju Island and join hands to open an era of democracy when the entire people are heartily willing to participate in national development."

No shared the head table with National Assembly Speaker Yi Chae-hyong, Chief Justice Kim Yong-chol, Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chae, the outgoing Prime Minister Kim Chong-yol and Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and chatted with them.

After the people raised glasses for No at the former Premier Kim's suggestion, No walked around the hall, shaking hands with them.

The new president exchanged brief greetings with foreign envoys.

Matching the image of the ordinary people's government and era, the foods served were simple and there were no decorations in the hall.

Prime Minister Views Tenor of Government SK260224 Seoul YONHAP in English 0216 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea's Acting Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chae said Friday that the primary emphasis of his government will be on developing democracy and achieving national reconciliation.

While delivering an address before new cabinet members and other senior government officials shortly after assuming his duties from the outgoing Prime Minister Kim Chong-yol, the former Seoul National University president said that his government will endeavor to inspire a feeling of vitality in Korean society by protecting freedom and other basic human rights.

Yi also said his government would manage the upcoming National sembly elections in a fair and just manner and make efforts to implement the local autonomy system efficiently.

Commenting on national reconciliation, the new prime minister said he would make utmost efforts to resolve the problem of provincialism and promote balanced economic development between the provinces and between rural and urban areas.

While stressing that the success of his government's efforts to achieve national reconciliation hinges on whether his government can win public confidence, the acting prime minister said that he would do his best to ensure that his government carries out its responsibilities in a democratic, faithful and moderate way.

No Tae-u's Inauguration, Problems Analyzed SK250642 Seoul YONHAP in English 0553 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 25 (YONHAP)—The era of South Korea's Sixth Republic set sail Thursday with No Tae-u formally inaugurated as the nation's 13th president.

No's inauguration seems to mark a good beginning for the Sixth Republic aithough there are considerable problems he must confront during his five-year term.

The largest advantage for No's government is his election by a popular vote, the first such election in 16 years. The people have long aspired to directly elect their president while the government of former President Chon Tu-hwan has suffered because of the legitimacy issue.

Last December No won Korea's first direct presidential election in 16 years by defeating a divided opposition. No, candidate of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, won the election with 37 percent of the vote.

Although he failed to earn a majority, No's victory put an end to the issue of the government's legitimacy because he was elected by a popular vote.

A s he tackles the problems facing him, factors working in his favor are the split in the opposition camp, which has been divided since the Dec. 16 presidential election, and the 1988 Seoul Olympics which begin in September.

The problems facing no include resolving the 1980 Kwangju incident, easing regional conflicts and gaps among different social brackets, bringing about a fair distribution of wealth and realizing national unification of the divided peninsula.

In his inaugural address, No suggested an answer to these issues by calling for "self-reformation and reconciliation."

Declaring that the new administration will be a government of the people, No said that it will open an era of democracy in which each citizen can reach his full potential.

No also suggested democratic reform and national reconciliation as the basic direction for his administration which means an end to the past practices of abusing human rights for the causes of economic growth and national security.

No's inauguration also established a significant milestone in Korea's political history as it marked the first peaceful transfer of power since the establishment of Korea's First Republic in 1948.

It is more than natural that a president should step down and hand over power to his successor, when his term has expired. However, previous presidents have failed to adhere to this basic practice because of an excessive desire for power.

In the past four decades, there have been four changes in Korea's presidency but none was carried out peacefully or as a matter of due course. No's inauguration marked the fifth presidential change and was the first one to be carried out in a peaceful manner.

South Korea's first change of power took place in April 1960 when students and citizens toppled the dictatorial regime of President Syngman Rhee.

The late Rhee, who was respected by the Korean people for his devotion to the nation's independence struggles, was elected as the first president of Korea in 1948 but failed to implement democratic practices or to establish a tradition for a peaceful governmental change, a duty he was expected to fulfill.

The Second Republic was established in April 1960, following the collapse of Syngman Rhee's regime, but it fell one year later when Maj. Gen. Pak Chong-hui led a successful coup on May 16, 1961.

Pak, establishing a precedent for military intervention in the nation's politics, ushered in the Third Republic in December 1963 by assuming the presidency.

Pak remained in power until his assassination in October 1979. Following Pak's death, Prime Minister Choe Kyoha assumed the presidency but resigned in August 1980 to pave the way for a new president.

On Aug. 27, 1980, Chon Tu-hwan, then a retired general, was elected by an electoral college as Korea's 11th president. He was sworn in on Sept. 1 that year.

Under a new constitution, Chon was elected Korea's 12th president by the electoral college on Feb. 25, 1981, and was inaugurated on March 3, 1981, ushering in the Fifth Republic.

Following his inauguration in 1981, Chon repeatedly said that he would step down at the end of his single seven-year term—a pledge which he kept when his term expired at midnight on Wednesday.

Government Reviews 'Military Secret' Concept SK260101 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 26 Feb 88 p 2

[Editorial: "Review of Military Secrets"]

[Text] The concept of what constitutes a military secret is reportedly under review by the government in an attempt to widen the scope of information which can be made available to the public. Work at the Defense Ministry to revise the law concerned to this effect is already under way.

The law governing the protection of military secrets was enacted in 1972, and covers almost every conceivable aspect of military affairs. Now, at the outset of the new republic, the defense authorities are expected to respond affirmatively to the critical voices which have been heard in connection with the excessive censorship of military information, even of matters already widely known.

As far as this problem is concerned, the defense authorities have long been deaf to public criticism, refusing to budge even an inch. Consequently, the situation now is that nothing can be printed unless it is released officially by the ministry.

All sensible citizens will instantly recognize the necessity for classification of military information, the divulgence of which could affect national security, not least because of the acute military confrontation with the potential foe at the other end of the divided peninsula.

Nonetheless, it is considered nonsensical for the defense administration to stick to its long-standing stereotyped notions concerning the classification of military secrets which hardly suit an age of democratization.

Drastically watering down the concept of a "secret," the military authorities will be more easily able to convince the people of the water-tight defense posture, at the time as they grant them their basic right to information about major state affairs.

When our defense planners are ready to share strategic military information with the public to some degree, the adversary in the north may be expected to be all the more overwhelmed by our defense capabilities, thus preventing him from triggering a war based on his miscalculation of our ability to respond.

Chong Ho-yong Meets With Former Generals SK250206 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] Outgoing Minister of National Defense Chong Ho-yong had a rare meeting Tuesday with a group of blacklisted former generals, including Chong Sung-hwa, a former Army chief of staff who was downgraded to private.

A dinner given by Chong at Army Hall brought together 18 of 31 generals who were demoted to privates or whose military records were erased.

Thirteen generals did not attend because they had emigrated or had previous engagements, a ministry source said.

He said Chong organized the gathering to promote people's confidence in the military.

Chong will be replaced by O Cha-pok, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Chong, a key figure in the Fifth Republic, graduated from the Korea Military Academy with President Chon Tu-hwan and President-elect No Tae-u.

The generals at the dinner included former martial law Commander Chong Sung-hwa and Kim Ki-won, former presidential secretary and Army four-star general.

Both Chong and Kim were arrested on charges of complicity in the assassination of President Pak Chong-hui on Oct. 26, 1979, and were sentenced to prison in 1980, a year before the Fifth Republic was launched.

They were later granted amnesty but their ranks were not restored from private. The Military Service law was recently revised to reinstate with honor the military ranks of Chong Sung-hwa and 30 other generals.

In a meeting with reporters last Friday, Minister Chong said he suggested revising the law to help rehabilitate the generals.

"I thought it was against the principle of equity that their honor remained unrestored while civilians were granted amnesty on many occasions.

"Personally, I regard Chong Sung-hwa as a good persons," he said.

Chong Sung-hwa is currently standing advisor to the Reunification Democratic Party, which he joined last November during the presidential election campaign. He bitterly criticized key figures in the ruling camp for the so-called "Dec. 12 incident" in which he and his allies were arrested.

Beef Farmers Seek Control of Import Volume SK240059 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 Feb 88 p 6

[Text] Farmers in the livestock sector appealed to the government yesterday to confine imports of U.S. beef solely to the hotel industry.

Before the beef importation, the government was also urged to give financial and tax benefits to the pertinent farmers to compensate their possible property damages resulting from the beef imports.

Some 300 people, including 158 representatives of livestock cooperatives from across the nation, made such proposals in a general meeting of representatives affiliated with the National Livestock Cooperatives Federation.

They also requested the government to strictly regulate the big enterprises' branching out to the livestock industry.

Indicating that the government move toward the agricultural market opening might break down the base of the livestock industry, the representatives called for the exemption of customs duties and value-added taxes from the imported feed grains and equipment for livestock farming.

The proposals included the lowering of the interest rate of the livestock industry promotion fund, mutual savings fund and other funds for livestock farming.

For the appropriate control of the beef import volume, they recommended that organizations of beef producers handle the business concerning the beef importation.

Liberalization on 145 Import Items Due 1 April SK250124 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 25 Feb 88 p 6

[Text] The imports of 145 items including small passenger cars with engine capacities of less than 2,000cc will be liberalized effective April 1, the Trade-Industry Ministry announced yesterday.

The comprise 131 of the 133 items which the government notified of in 1985 for the liberalization of their imports this year and 14 of the 370 items which will be imported after next year.

The two items whose imports are restricted even though they are on the list of the 133 items for their import liberalization this year are agricultural products, namely soybean oil and canned yellow peaches.

In the meantime, the 14 items which will be imported ahead of schedule include pulp, and precious metals and stones. Among the 145 items which will be imported are three agricultural products, 12 petrochemical goods, four metals, 91 machinery items, 17 electric and electronic and four textile products.

The three agricultural products include quinces and fruit cocktail while the 91 machinery items include any kind of passenger cars with engine capacities of less than 2,000cc, jeeps, and parts and accessories of motor vehicles.

The 17 electric and electronic products comprise computer systems, video tape recorders (VTRs), phonographs and TV cameras.

The Trade-Industry Ministry said that import liberalization of the 145 items is designed to contain the nation's trade surplus at around \$4.5 billion this year, compared with some \$8 billion in black ink recorded last year.

The ministry added that the liberalization is also aimed at defusing trade frictions with the United States and the European Community.

However, the import of three kinds of raw sugar which have been freely imported will be controlled due to possible dumping activities on the domestic market.

According to statistics at the ministry, the domestic price of raw sugar is \$480 per ton at present, compared with the international price of \$357.

Of the 7,911 goods based on Customs Cooperation Council Nomenclature subject to import liberalization, the number of products whose imports are liberalized will increase from the current 7,408 to 7,550.

As a result, the import liberalization ratio will increase from the present 93.6 percent to 95.4 percent.

In particular, the import of all steel, metal, machinery, and electric and electronic products will be liberalized.

The ministry said that it would expand imports instead of adjusting the parity rate between the won and the U.S. dollar to avoid the mounting trade frictions with the United States.

It contended that the upward adjustment of the won value against the U.S. dollar would seriously damage small and medium industries.

With the import liberalization of small passenger cars, the domestic auto market will be fully opened, thereby inviting fierce competition between local automakers and their foreign counterparts.

Since last year, the government has liberalized the import of passenger cars with engine capacities of more than 2,000cc.

At present, the nation's three automakers—Hyundai Motor, Daewoo Motor and Kia Motor—are all manufacturing subcompact cars with engine capacities of less than 2,000cc.

Correction to Prime Minister Kim Address

The following correction pertains to the item subheaded "Prime Minister Kim Address" published in the 25 February East Asia DAILY REPORT, page 17:

Column one, the sourceline should read: SK250945 Seoul Television Service in Korean 0105 GMT 25 Feb 88 (changing "Domestic" to "Television" and correcting time)

Column two, last paragraph, only sentence should read: ...presidential inauguration ceremony and the prime minister. [applause] (deleting "new")

Burma

Malaysian Prime Minister Continues Visit

Seeks Bilateral Cooperation

BK250629 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0607 GMT 25 Feb 88

[By S. Sivaselvam]

[Text] Rangoon, Feb 25 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed received a red carpet welcome at Mingaladon Airport here at the start of his three-day visit to Burma aimed at seeking further ways of enhancing bilateral cooperation.

His visit, to reciprocate that of his Burmese counterpart U Maung Maung Kha to Malaysia last July, is to demonstrate the no-problems state of bilateral relations existing between the two countries.

Even with Burma's own form of non-alignment which demands strict non-interference in international or other nations' affairs, Malaysia and Burma are able to see eye-to-eye on significant regional and international matters.

Dr Mahathir will tell the Burmese Government about Malaysia's bid for a U.N. Security Council seat, and Malaysian officials expect a favourable response from Burma in Malaysia's efforts to seek international support for the move.

Dr Mahathir, arriving here from a visit to Chiang Mai where he had talks with Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, was accompanied by his wife, Dr Siti Hasmah Ali, Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar, Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Oo Gin Sun and Deputy Home Minister Megat Junid Megat Ayub.

On hand to greet him were Maung Maung Kha, the two deputy prime ministers U Tun Tin and U Kyaw Htin, other ministers and the diplomatic corps.

A 19-gun salute, a guard-of-honour by all three military services, and schoolgirls waving Malaysian and Burmese flags were all in the ceremony to welcome Dr Mahathir.

He is due to meet President San Yu this afternoon before holding wide-ranging talks with Maung Maung Kha on matters covering international developments, Malaysian and Burmese foreign policy objectives and bilateral matters including trade and technical assistance;

Burma gas backed Malaysia in international fora on a number of issues and provided assistance in various forms, notably in sending doctors to serve in Malaysia. It backed Dr Mahathir's presidency of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Vienna last year, as well as the ASEAN-sponsored resolution on Kampuchea in the U.N.

Several projects under the Malaysian technical cooperation programme have been extended to Burma, particularly training facilities for Burmese officials.

Malaysian offficials say there are no problems at all where Malaysian-Burmese relations are concerned, and Dr Mahathir's visit is to maintain the closeness of the ties and explore further avenues for bilateral cooperation.

While the visit is the first by a Malaysian prime minister since August 1976 when Hussein Onn was here, there have over the past several years been numerous visits at official and ministerial levels.

Maung Maung Kha was in Malaysia last July, and Pulau Pinang Chief Minister Dr Lim Chong Eu visited Burma last August. Former Deputy Prime Minister Musa Hitam was here in November 1982, and several Malaysian ministers, including Finance Minister Daim Zainuddin and Rafidah, have also made visits here.

Greeted by U Ne Win

BK251405 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] U Ne Win, chairman of the Burma Socialist Program Party of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, visited the Seinlet Kantha State Guest House on University Avenue at 1035 today to greet the visiting Malaysian prime minister, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, and his wife.

Also present on the occasion were U Maung Maung Kha, prime minister; U Ye Gaung, minister of foreign affairs, and his wife; U Saw Hlaing, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and Mr Mohamed Amir Jaafar, Malaysian ambassador to Burma.

After greeting the visiting prime minister and his wife, the party chairman left the State Guest House at 1055.

Meets With U San Yu

BK251415 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] U San Yu, president and chairman of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, received the visiting Malaysian prime minister, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, at the Credentials Hall in the People's Assembly compound at 1400 today.

Also present together with U San Yu at the meeting were U Aye Ko, vice president and vice chairman of the State Council; U Sein Lwin, secretary of the State Council; U Ye Gaung, minister of foreign affairs; and U Thein Toe, Burmese ambassador to Malaysia.

Accompanying the visiting prime minister at the meeting were Datuk Abu Hassan Omar, minister of foreign affairs; Datuk Paduka Rafidah Aziz, minister of trade and industry; Datuk Oo Gin Sun, deputy minister from the Office of the Prime Minister; Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayub, deputy minister of home affairs; Mr Mohamed Amir Jaafar, Malaysian ambassador to Burma; and responsible officials.

Calls on U Maung Maung Kha

BK251422 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, visiting prime minister of Malaysia, today called on U Maung Maung Kha, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, in the conference hall of the State Council in the People's Assembly compound at 1430 today.

Present together with U Maung Maung Kha at the meeting were Thura U Tun Tin, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and finance; Thura U Kyaw Htin, deputy prime minister and minister of defense; U Ye Gaung, minister of foreign affairs; U Min Gaung, minister of home and religious affairs; U Khin Maung Gyi, minister of trade; U Aung Kyaw Myint, minister of information and culture; U Thein Toe, Burmese ambassador to Malaysia; and U Kyaw Tint, director general of the Office of the Council of Ministers.

Accompanying the visiting prime minister at the meeting were Datuk Abu Hassan Omar, minister of foreign affairs; Datuk Paduka Rafidah Aziz, minister of trade and industry; Datuk Oo Gin Sun, deputy minister from the Office of the Prime Minister; Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayub, deputy minister of home affairs; Mr Mohamed Amir Jaafar, Malaysian ambassador to Burma; and responsible officials.

After exchanging greetings, the Burmese side headed by Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha and the Malaysian delegation led by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohamed held a round of talks.

Holds Talks With U Maung Maung BK251505 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1432 GMT 25 Feb 88

[By Si Sivaselvam]

[Text] Rangoon, Feb 25 (BERNAMA)—Malaysia and Burma Thursday agreed in principle that Penang, the island off Malaysia's north-west coast, be made the gateway to Burma in the Republic's efforts towards economic development.

Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed suggested that Penang be an air link between Rangoon and the rest of Southeast Asia, as well as a centre for its trade links with the rest of the region. Burmese Premier Maung Maung Kha said Burma was interested in principle to the proposal, and officials of both countries would study the matter in detail.

Mahathir, in his talks with Maung Maung Kha, pointed out to Penang's decades of trade and other links with Burma and felt this should be cemented.

Penang had all the facilities to service Rangoon in many ways, said Malaysian Foreign Ministry Acting Secretary-General Razali Ismail when briefing newsmen on the talks.

On air links, Mahathir suggested that Malaysia Airlines and Burma Airways Corporation have joint services between Penang and Rangoon and beyond to Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and elsewhere.

Penang's trade links with Burma are already "not insignificant," Razali said.

"From the political angle, the two countries are very close, but we are not linked."

Mahathir also offered more technical training facilities for Burmese officials as well as places for Burmese officers in Malaysian defence colleges.

Both premiers also agreed that the arrangement of sending Burmese medical specialists to Malaysia on contract basis be continued for "quite some time yet."

Maung Maung Kha said Burma would consider very sympathetically Malaysia's candidacy for a U.N. Security Council seat.

Malaysia likewise would consider Burma's candidacy for a seat on the U.N. Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC).

On trade ties, Mahathir said Malaysia was prodding its private sector to look at Burma seriously as there was a lot of scope for trade.

Both countries would study how the volume of trade could be stepped up, Razali said.

Earlier, Mahathir met President San Yu and extended the (Malaysian) king's invitation to him to visit Malaysia.

When he met Ne Win, chairman of the Burmese Socialist Programme party, he re-extended an invitation to him to visit Malaysia. Ne Win was to have come to Malaysia in February last year but this was called off due to ill-health.

At a dinner tonight hosted by Maung Maung Kha, Mahathir reiterated that Malaysia was very keen to "inject more substance to its relations with Burma" especially in trade and economic cooperation. Malaysia's trade with Burma, according to the official figures, is less than two percent of its total trade volume.

Exports to Burma shrank from M\$36 million (about US\$14.4 million) in 1982 to M\$6 million (US\$2.4 million) in 1984, while imports from Burma dropped from M\$67 million (US\$26.8 million) in 1980 to M\$17 million (US\$6.8 million) in 1984.

The latest available figures, for 1986, recorded exports from Malaysia at M\$22 million (US\$8.8 million) and imports at M\$19.5 million (US\$7.8 million) but significant steps had been taken in counter-trading to help boost bilateral trade, particularly palm oil in exchange for rice.

Malaysian exports include vegetable oils, margarine, heaters, air conditioners, car parts and some capital goods.

Imports from Burma are mainly animal feed, wood products and rice.

Maung Maung Kha in his dinner speech said Burma was keen to revitalise its ties with Malaysia.

He was confident bilateral economic and trade relations would be further promoted and called for more frequent exchange of visits at all levels.

Attends Banquet

BK251432 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] U Maung Maung Kha, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, held a banquet in honor of Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, the visiting prime minister of Malaysia, his wife, and members of his entourage at the Reception Hall in the People's Assembly compound at 1900 today.

Attending the banquet were State Council members and their wives, members of the Council of Ministers and their wives, personnel of the Central Organs of Power and their wives, deputy ministers, the dean of the diplomatic corps in Burma, ambassadors of the member states of the ASEAN and the Commonwealth, the Burmese ambassador to Malaysia and his wife, and military and civilian officials.

Gives Dinner Speech

BK260912 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Excerpts] Malaysia and Burma have agreed in principle that Penang be made a gateway to Burma in its efforts toward economic development. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed suggested that Penang be an air link between Rangoon and the rest of Southeast Asia.

The Malaysian island could also be a center for Burma's trade links in the region. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir arrived in Rangoon yesterday for a 3-day official visit.

The Burmese prime minister, U Maung Maung Kha, indicated the Republic is interested in principle to the proposal. [passage omitted]

At the dinner hosted by U Maung Maung Kha at Parliament House in Rangoon last night, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir reiterated that Malaysia is very keen to inject more substance to its relations with Burma, especially in trade and economic cooperation.

On Kampuchea, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said the involvement of big powers in the Kampuchean problem had made it more difficult to achieve a political solution which could be agreed by all the factions concerned. He believed that the concept of ZOPFAN—zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality—would be able to provide a solution to the problem.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir praised the Burmese Government's efforts to take the country out of the influence of foreign powers. He said Burma and Malaysia have learned a bitter lesson that they should not rely on developed countries for help. They should instead cooperate closely among themselves to develop their own countries.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir expressed satisfaction that Malaysia and Burma share similar views on many international issues and are committed toward helping to solve these problems.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Claim Over Islands Near Spratlys Reaffirmed BK261115 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1050 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Jasin, Feb 26 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia will not budge from its decision to reject claims of other countries to several islands and atolls south of the Spratlys, Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba stressed Friday.

He told reporters after Friday prayers at a mosque in this State of Melaka town, about 200 km south of Kuala Lumpur that Malaysia will stick to its stand.

The islands are rightly ours and we will not budge from our position in relation to any claim over them, he said.

He also said he did not think Malaysia would discuss claims over the islands with any quarter. Deputy Minister Reports on Drug Activities BK251159 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1137 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 25 (OANA-BERNAMA)—International drug traffickers are no longer using Malaysia as a transit centre—based on the amounts seized in the country, Deputy Home Minister Megat Junid said Thursday night.

The indications are that the drugs are meant for domestic consumption, he said during a TV programme here.

Traffickers are using new tactics to evade the authorities, including conducting their transactions in remote areas, like graveyards.

They were also carrying drugs below the minimum amounts which would get them the death penalty if they were caught.

(Under Malaysian laws, possession of 15 grammes of heroin, or specified amounts of other drugs, would constitute being a trafficker, who would be liable to a mandatory death sentence).

The deputy minister said stricter enforcement had forced the traffickers to adopt the new tactics.

On addiction, he said the number of first-time addicts fell from 7,371 in 1986 to 6,684 last year.

On the proposed laws providing for the seizure of assets of drug traffickers, he said only assets acquired from drug transactions would be forfeited, including those channelled to the families of the traffickers.

Assets not connected to the sale of drugs would not be seized, he said.

Megat Junid, is president of the National Association Against Narcotics' Abuse (PEMADAM).

Singapore

Minister Claims U.S. 'Reneged' on Agreement BK251219 Hong Kong AFP in English 1131 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Singapore, Feb 25 (AFP)—Singapore released documents Thursday which it said proved the United States had gone back on an agreement to maintain preferential trade status for Singapore in exchange for copyright legislation.

Trade and Industry Minister Lee Hsien Loong said that the two issues had been linked as early as November 1985 in negotiations on Singapore's status within the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). In January, the United States announced it was lifting trade benefits for Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea and Taiwan, effective from January 1989, in a move to address the growing U.S. trade deficit.

Singapore officials had immediately protested that Washington was reneging on an agreement to maintain the trade benefits if Singapore expedited passage of its copyright act. The act was adopted in 1986.

Brigadier General Lee released two documents in Parliament Thursday, including a "record of understanding" between U.S. and Singapore negotiators after talks September 22-23, 1986, on the U.S. GSP review.

The text of the document, provided to the press, said: "The U.S. delegation stressed that it would recommend a favorable GSP package described below if the new copyright act were passed with the changes described below and protection granted to U.S. works by the end of 1986."

The second document, which Brig. Gen. Lee described as a "non-paper" carrying no signatures but setting out U.S. views, said: "Both the timing and the quality of copyright protection were key in justifying the recommendation of such a favorable GSP package for Singapore."

Brig. Gen. Lee, responding to an MP's question, said Singapore would respond to the U.S. action "not meekly, but in a measured, commensurate way", keeping in mind that the dispute was "not with an enemy but with a friend."

He said Washington had been asked formally to confirm the facts of the negotiated agreement as presented and that the U.S trade representative had linked the two issues.

"It is clear that the review of Singapore's GSP status was linked to its enactment of a copyright bill which took into account U.S. concerns," the minister, son of Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, told Parliament.

"Singapore's understanding was that having met U.S. concerns on copyright protection it will continue to enjoy GSP benefits as provided under the 1984 U.S. Trade and Tariff Act.

"The act states that U.S. GSP would cease when a country's per capita GNP exceeded the mandatory ceiling of 8,500 U.S. dollars or if the law is changed by the Congress or when the U.S. GSP law (U.S. Trade and Tariff Act 1984) expires in 1993.

"Singapore is therefore justifiably deeply aggrieved by the unilateral U.S. decision to graduate Singapore, although Singapore did not fulfil the criteria for mandatory graduation, and had fulfilled its side of the GSPcopyright deal," he said. Indonesian Armed Forces Chief Bids Farewell BK251428 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] The visiting Indonesian Armed Forces chief, General Murdani, has called on President Wee Kim Wee at the Istana [Palace]. He also called on the prime minister. Gen Murdani, who will retire next month, is here on a 3-day farewell visit. He (?has met) with first deputy prime minister and defense minister, Mr Goh Chok Tong; the trade and industry minister and second minister for defense services, Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong; and the Singapore Armed Forces chief of General Staff, Major General Winston Choo.

Cambodia

Thai Violations, KPRAF Successes Reported BK260338 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 25 Feb 88

[From the "Weekly Roundup of Salient Events" feature]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Last week, in violation of our territory, the enemy continued to pound areas along the Cambodian-Thai border, such as Hill 284, 14 km northwest of Pailin; the Preah Vihear temples; Hill 243 north of Ku village; Hills 505, 551, and 300; Pchor Mountain; and Hills 971 and 537. Approximately the same amount of shells were used as in the previous week, a total of more than 2,000 rounds. The Thais also continued infiltration activities in various areas, such as northeast of Ku village, [word indistinct], south of O Da, northwest of Samlot, west of [word indistinct], and Pchor Mountain.

In the air, Thai authorities sent L-19 planes to spy over the Preah Vihear temples and parts of Malai and northwest Koh Kong, penetrating 1 to 2 km inside our airspace.

At sea, Thai fishing boats illegally entered our waters, especially off the islands of Tang, Kong, and Poulo Wai. [passage indistinct] Our armed forces succeeded in protecting our territory and took resolute measures to prevent enemy infiltrations, sending out sorties against the intruders, springing ambushes, and remaining constantly combat ready. [passage omitted]

Last week, our armed forces launched sweep operations against bandits of all stripes. In 43 clashes our troops put 172 bandits out of action, including [words indistinct] and 37 who surrendered, and seized 106 weapons and some war materiel. [passage omitted]

Chea Soth Receives GDR Industrial Delegation BK251228 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1117 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 25—Chea Soth, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and vice-premier, received in Phnom Penh Wednesday morning a visiting delegation of the enterprise of construction and import and export [as received] under the Ministry of Chemical Industry of the German Democratic Republic.

On the occasion, Vice-Premier Chea Soth, briefed his GDR guests on the current situation in Kampuchea, and profoundly thanked the party, government and people of the GDR for their precious support and assistance to Kampuchea which, he said, have greatly contributed to the all-sided development in Kampuchea.

The Kampuchean leader expressed his strong conviction that the all-round cooperation and friendship between Kampuchea and the GDR would further consolidate and develop on the basis of Marxism-Leninism.

For his part, the GDR ambassador to Kampuchea, Rolf Dach, speaking on behalf of the delegation, informed the Kampuchean leader of the GDR Government's unreserved stance in helping Kampuchea develop its four-economic spearheads, rubber plantation included.

The GDR Government will also provide various consumer good and credit loan to help rehabilitate Kampuchean economy, he stressed.

Army Delegation Returns From Soviet Union BK251245 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 25 Feb 88

["Latest News"]

[Text] After attending the celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy in the USSR, the high-ranking army delegation of our PRK Defense Ministry returned safely to Phnom Penh on the afternoon of 25 February 1988.

Welcoming the delegation at Pochentong Airport were Comrade Ke Kimyan, member of the party Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the General Staff, Comrade El Vansarat, member of the party Central Committee and deputy minister of national defense; Comrade Meas Kroch, deputy minister of national defense; Comrade Ham Kin, chief of the General Logistics Department; Comrade Chieng Am, deputy chief of the General Political Department; and many high-ranking and middle-level cadres from the three general departments under the Defense Ministry.

Also on hand at the airport to welcome the delegation were Comrade Mariasov, Soviet military attache; Comrade [name indistinct], Vietnamese military attache; and Comrade (Simouang Vannathi), Lao military attache.

Radio Reviews 1987 Work, Sets 1988 Targets BK260644 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] On the morning of 25 February, a meeting was held at the Voice of the Kampuchean People General Directorate to sum up and assess the results of work achieved by General Directorate cadres, personnel, and workers, and to set targets for 1988.

The report summing up work done in 1987 was read by Comrade Van Sunheng, deputy director general of the Voice of the Kampuchean People. The report noted that in 1987 national- and foreign-language transmissions on political, military, cultural, economic, and social subjects more clearly showed the growth and development of our PRK to our national and foreign listeners, both at home and abroad, as well as our spectators.

On this occasion, Comrade Kim Yin, member of the KPRP Central Committee and director general of the Voice of the Kampuchean People, also expressed his appreciation for the achievements of all cadres, personnel, and workers who made all-out efforts in the service of propaganda. He urged all cadres, personnel, and combatants to display a sense of thrift by using equipment creatively and effectively, and especially by paying close attention to enhancing solidarity and cooperation in all specialized sectors to attain more and greater achievements as contributions to the 10th anniversary celebration of the national day.

At the meeting it was unanimously decided to award citation certificates and letters to model and pioneer cadres, personnel, and workers who made great achievements in implementing tasks entrusted by the General Directorate.

Ministry Reports Progess of Rice Harvest BK260446 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0403 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Phnom Penh, 26 Feb (SPK)—According to the Ministry of Agriculture, as of 18 February Cambodian peasants had harvested monsoon rice on more than 1,190,800 hectares, or 92 percent of the total area.

Seven provinces—Takeo, Kompong Cham, Kampot, Battambang, Ratanakiri, Stung Treng, and Kompong Som-City—have already completed the harvest, while others have completed more than 90 percent.

Sihanouk's Sends Message Read to People BK250910 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Message to the People from Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk read by His Royal Highness Norodom Rannarit—recorded]

[Text] I, Norodom Rannarit, the son and personal representative of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk in Cambodia and Asia and commander in chief of the ANS [Sihanoukist National Army], am greatly honored today to read, on behalf of our Samdech Euv, a message which read in full as follows:

To grandfathers, grandmothers, aunts, uncles, all Cambodian brothers and sisters, and all my beloved children who are living under the oppression by the Vietnamese communist aggressors:

My beloved children, I miss all of you—young and old and men and women alike—both day and night. I want all of you to realize that since the unfortunate time when we separated, I have never been idle, making supreme efforts, morally and physically, and using all possible means, intellectually and energetically, to seek a just, appropriate, and as early as possible solution to the so-called Cambodian problem. As a matter of fact, this is not merely a Cambodian problem. It is also an international problem.

At present, the so-called PRK Government, installed by the Vietnamese communists in 1979, is actively renewing its propaganda against me. It has tried to make all of you, my beloved children, believe that I do not really think of, love, or care about you because I rejected Mr Hun Sen's recent proposal calling on me to return to Phnom Penh to be appointed as the head of state or just to meet all of my 7 million children.

My dear 7 million children, all of you should realize that I love you more than my own life and I am waiting eagerly for the day when we will meet again, hopefully as soon as possible, so that I can embrace all of you and serve you personally by joining with you in rebuilding our fatherland which has been ruined by Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge and the current stormy war. But, with my respect for your own interests and for the lofty interests of our beloved Cambodian fatherland, all of you must understand that I should not fall into the most shameful and despicable trap set for me by the Vietnamese colonialists and their lackeys—the Khmer Viet Minhs.

This trap is as follows:

They have colluded to do anything possible to lure me to Phnom Penh in 1988 and to persuade me to stay there within the framework of the illegal and unacceptable government of their so-called PRK regime so as to use my presence as a means to legalize their regime, which is a satellite of the Soviet imperialists and Vietnamese colonialists. This will only turn our Cambodian fatherland into a life-long Vietnamese colony and a permanent satellite of the Soviet Union.

During my meetings with Mr Hun Sen in France in December 1987 and January 1988, I proposed to Mr Hun Sen that the PRK regime together with the Democratic Kampuchean regime of the coalition government be abolished so as to form a provisional four-party government with the duty of organizing free and secret elections under international supervision, in which all Cambodian people, that is all the beloved children, will freely cast their votes to select their representatives to the Cambodian National Assembly in the capital of Phnom Penh. This National Assembly would thus be created from the genuine goodwill of all the beloved children, that is the Cambodian people in general, and would be duty-bound to draft a constitution for our Cambodian state, nation, and fatherland. This constitution would decide the name of our country as well as the political, social, cultural, and economic system of our country. It is all of you, beloved children, who will become the masters of the Cambodian destiny with full sovereignty. It is not Vietnam, the Soviet Union, Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge, Son Sann-Sa Sutsakhan's Blue Khmers, Sihanouk, the Sihanoukists, those in the coalition government, nor any other persons, but only all of you, the Cambodian people, who have the right to decide the name of Cambodia and the political, social, cultural, and economic system of the Cambodian fatherland. Only all of you, beloved children, have the right to freely elect, through your votes, your head of state and your government.

At present, I am still unable to solve the so-called Cambodian problem. This is because: 1. Vietnam does not agree to withdraw its troops from our country to grant independence to the Cambodian fatherland and return the right of self-determination to the Cambodian people. The Vietnamese Government has refused to discuss this matter with me if I resigned from the post of Democratic Kampuchean president. [sentence as heard] 2. Mr Hun Sen and the Phnom Penh regime have totally rejected my proposal for the abolition of the governments of the PRK and Democratic Kampuchea, for the formation of a provisional Cambodian government outside the framework of the governments of the PRK and Democratic Kampuchea, for a general and free election outside the framework of the governments of the PRK and Democratic Kampuchea, and for an international peacekeeping force in Cambodia. The purpose of the proposal is to prevent the Khmer Rouge and all the Cambodian armed forces from threatening peace in Cambodia and to maintain freedom for the Cambodian people following the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from our country.

Mr Hun Sen and his government's total rejection of this reasonable and patriotic proposal, aimed solely at saved Cambodia and the Cambodian people, and the Vietnamese Government's rejection of the proposal for friendly talks on the Cambodian-Vietnamese problem with me, who used to be its comrade in arms, have prevented me from meeting with you at the present time.

I can never forget any of you, my beloved children. I love you very much and will always love you until the end of my life. It is true that I have the essential, noble task of continuing the national liberation struggle until Vietnam and Mr Hun Sen's government accept my proposal.

This proposal, if implemented throughout Cambodia, would not affect the interests of Vietnam, the Soviet Union, or the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen party. I made this proposal with respect for the interests of all parties and with the desire to bring peace not only to Cambodia but to all countries in Indochina, Southeast Asia, and other areas far from here.

Beloved children, you must realize that if your Samdech Euv returns to Phnom Penh right now, our Cambodia and all of you who are the genuine patriots will certainly lose all possibility of becoming an independent country and free and sovereign people, because I will only become a prisoner and a puppet in the claws of the Vietnamese communist colonialists.

Before ending this message, I wish to ask all of you, beloved children, not to believe in the rumors that I desire to stay on with Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge. Like you, I will never forget nor pardon the crimes that Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge committed and are committing against innumerable innocent people, including my own children. However, the crimes committed by the Khmer Rouge and the Blue Khmers cannot be an excuse for the SRV to invade and colonize Cambodia.

In the future, we may be able to avoid the danger posed by the Khmer Rouge by having an international peacekeeping force sent to our country. This powerful force will carry out the police duty throughout our country.

At present, the Khmer Rouge and Blue Khmers, on the one side, and the Khmer Viet Minhs and the SRV, on the other side, have rejected my reasonable and patriotic proposal because neither side wants to abandon its ambition and greed for personal interests and its opposition to our nation and people. At present, I must fight alone against all enemies who think only of their own despicable interests and who do not care about the survival and future of our nation, race, and fatherland. However, all the beloved children who have known well your Samdech Euv's genuine patriotism will certainly realize that I will never abandon hope. Even alone, I will continue the sacred struggle together with my front—the Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia]-and my ANS which is led by HRH Norodom Rannarit in order to salvage our fatherland and people.

If the Three Gems and all the miraculous powers kindly bless us with justice, Cambodia and our gentle and humble nation will certainly be saved. This is my most fervent and enthusiastic aspiration.

From afar, I wish to extend my most profound and lasting love to all beloved children.

Long live independent Cambodia!

Long live the sovereignty of the Cambodian nation!

Issued on 20 February 1988

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

Thai Paper Says Ieng Sary at CGDK Meet BK260215 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Feb 88 p 6

["Kampuchean Diary" by Jacques Bekaert: "The Return of Ieng Sary"]

[Excerpts] Cabinet meetings of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea are ritualistic performances where very little durable work is ever accomplished. The three factions that compose the CGDK have no passion for each other and tend as much as possible to mind their own business. If the Partie of Democratic Kampuchea (the Khmer Rouge) has any serious problem to discuss its representatives will take it directly to either Prince Sihanouk or, if it concerns military matters, to Prince Rannarit in his capacity as commander-in-chief of the National Sihanoukist Army, the ANS.

The last Cabinet meeting of February 10 was similar to previous exercises of the same type. With one notable exception. Ieng Sary attended the meeting.

Ieng Sary has always been considered one of the key figures of the Khmer Rouge. He is also a member of the coalition government, since in July 1982 he was appointed member of the co-ordinating Committee for Economy and Finance. In case you've forgotten, the coalition government is composed of a president, the head of state (Sihanouk, at present on leave), a deputy president in charge of foreign affairs, Mr Khieu Samphan; a prime minister (Mr Son Sann) and of four "ministries" (for Education, Defence, Economy and Finance, and Health) in which each faction of the coalition is represented by one "minister." It may not sound very practical, but it hardly matters. With the exception of the Khmer Rouge members of the CGDK, few ministers are based in Kampuchea and the production of each ministry is at best minimal. The ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the strong hands of the Khmer Rouge, does a lot of work but rarely asks the other factions for their point of view.

And now, back to leng Sary. The fact he came to the meeting is important first because he had not been seen by non Khmer Rouge sources for more than two years. Secondly, a man of his stature would not bother to make a public come-back unless he wants to make a point.

On August 29, 1985, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, as president of Democratic Kampuchea, went to a mysterious little Kampuchean village called "Dong Rek," in theory located in the province of Oddar Meanchey. The village, a few brand new houses and an open air reception area, could only be reached by journalists after they crossed a checkpoint manned by a few Khmer Rouge officials. You had to fill a special form, show your passport and indicate the motive for your "visit" to Democratic Kampuchea ("tourism," a few wrote). No one bothered to stamp any document though. As usual the KPNLF boycotted the ceremony. Although a full member of the CGDK, it was KPNLF policy not to be seen in public with the Khmer Rouge...But the Partie of Democratic Kampuchea came in force. Khieu Samphan of course, Son Sen (from the defence committee), Mme leng Thirit, seen by many as the real power inside the Foreign ministry, and leng Sary. [passage omitted]

On August 29 1985, after Sihanouk received the credentials of the new ambassadors from China and Bangladesh, leng Sary and his friends [not further identified] retired. One can imagine that the village of Dong Rek—which never looked more real than a movie set—was dismantled and its "population" (a couple of hundred women and children dressed in brand new clothes) returned to their camp. A few days later, the Khmer Rouge radio revealed that on August 29 the Partie of Democratic Kampuchea had decided to "retire" Pol Pot, because he had reached the age of compulsory retirement. The new commander-in-chief of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea was now Son Sen, a former teacher with a long involvement in defence matters.

No mention was ever made any more of leng Sary. "Where is leng Sary?" became a standard question among Kampuchea watchers. One source spotted him in Beijing, maybe for medical treatment—for heart problems, said another. Then one Khmer Rouge source said last year that "since he is not involved in foreign affairs any more, there is no need for leng Sary to be anywhere but in Kampuchea." Last October in new York, one senior Khmer Rouge source said the forthcoming victory of the UN Kampuchean resolution "would be very much the result of the hard work of Mr leng Sary."

It seems that today Pol Pot and Ieng Sary (and maybe the mysterious and so discreet Nuon Chea) remain the true leaders of the Partie of Democratic Kampuchea.

A few weeks ago Khieu Samphan, after Sihanouk's full resignation from the presidency of DK, rushed to Beijing. Of course he asked Sihanouk to reconsider his position, but also first expressed great interest in several

of the prince's most recent suggestions. Like the creation of a Quadripartite Provisional Government of Cambodia to be formed at the end of the second phase of the three-part total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops. He also agreed that Democratic Kampuchea could be dismantled (as would the pro-Vietnamese People's Republic of Kampuchea) on the eve of the formation of such a provisional government. The next day though, Mr Khieu Samphan reverted to the old Khmer Rouge line: Nothing before the full withdrawal of Vietnamese troops.

A day later he was back in town to brief the Cabinet meeting of the CGDK. Along, and to most of the participants' surprise, came leng Sary. "He never said a word, he was like a sphynx," a source present at the meeting said. But he certainly made sure that Mr Khieu Samphan stuck to the line.

Vietnam has in the past few weeks made abundantly clear it is not yet interested in talking directly to Sihanouk. This is the one and only reason the prince accepted to return to the presidency of Democratic Kampuchea, while remaining "on leave." Hanoi wants the four Khmer factions to first reach an agreement between themselves. Ieng Sary's presence at the last meeting of the CGDK tells more than long speeches. Mr Khieu Samphan may have found some value in Sihanouk's proposals. But the "Partie" of Democratic Kampuchea will have none of it. So let the people of Kampuchea suffer a little more, a little longer.

UN Human Rights Commission Resolution Hailed

BK260515 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Station editorial: "The Correct and Just Resolution of the UN Commission on Human Rights, Demanding that Vietnam Withdraw All Its Aggressive Troops From Cambodia, Constitutes a Great Encouragement for the Cambodian People Who Are Fighting Against the Vietnamese Aggressors to Liberate Their Nation and Protect Their Race"]

[Text] The UN Commission on Human Rights at a meeting in Geneva on 22 February voted overwhelmingly—31 to 7—to adopt a resolution demanding that the Hanoi authorities immediately withdraw all their aggressive troops from Cambodia. This resolution stressed that the illegal invasion and occupation of Cambodia by Vietnamese troops is tantamount to depriving the Cambodian people of their right to self-determination and constitutes a violation of human rights in present-day Cambodia. The resolution went on to say that the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia; the restoration and preservation of Cambodia's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; the respect for the Cambodian people's

right to self-determination; and the guarantee from all states not to interfere in Cambodia's internal affairs constitute an important part of a just and lasting solution to the Cambodian problem.

This resolution is correct and just and is in accordance with the principles of human rights, especially the right of a people to determine their own destiny. This resolution is also in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and international law, particularly the law governing relations between states.

Every year the UN Commission on Human Rights adopts a resolution by an overwhelming vote demanding that Vietnam withdraw all its aggressive troops from Cambodia. This reflects the resolute and consistent position of the international community which always adheres to the principles of international law and of the UN Charter and resolutely opposes Vietnam's brutal and savage aggression in Cambodia that is a most insolent encroachment on all the above-mentioned principles and on the Cambodian people's right to self-determination free from all external interference. Specifically, the aggressive Hanoi authorities are painstakingly trying by all deceptive means and maneuvers to divert and turn this problem of Vietnamese aggression against Cambodia into an internal affair. This is an attempt to dupe public opinion and conceal Hanoi's aggression in Cambodia to allow Vietnam to evade and refuse to comply with the demand to withdraw all its aggressive troops from Cambodia and to occupy Cambodia forever. However, the UN Commission on Human Rights as well as the international community with common sense have not been taken in by the Vietnamese trick. On the contrary, the UN Commission on Human Rights has stepped up the denunciation and condemnation of the aggressive Hanoi authorities and has continued to adhere firmly to the principled stand in demanding a settlement of the Cambodian problem through the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia. This would allow the Cambodian people to decide their own destiny without any external interference.

This resolution of the UN Commission on Human Rights is a great encouragement for the Cambodian people, the DK National Army, and all patriotic Cambodian resistance forces who are fighting the Vietnamese enemy aggressors right on the battlefield to wrest back their right to self-determination and to liberate the nation and protect the national independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and Cambodian race. The Cambodian people would like to express deep appreciation to the UN Human Rights Commission as well as the entire international community for firmly adhering to their principled stand and the correct and just resolution of the United Nations, and for sternly demanding that Vietnam immediately withdraw all its aggressive troops from Cambodia and allow the Cambodian people to decide their own destiny without external interference. The Cambodian people would like to appeal to the UN Human Rights Commission and the

international community to continue supporting the Cambodian people's struggle and to continue bringing all-round pressure on the Hanoi authorities until they are forced immediately and unconditionally to withdraw all their aggressive troops from Cambodia. In this way the Cambodian problem can be politically and fairly settled and Cambodia can enjoy peace and happiness, Vietnam can enjoy peace and happiness, and Southeast Asia as well as the Asia-Pacific can enjoy peace and lasting stability.

Indonesia

Interview With New Armed Forces Chief Sutrisno BK251429 Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 20 Feb 88 p 24

["Excerpts" of Interview with Armed Forces Commander-designate General Tri Sutrisno by TEMPO correspondent Budiono Sudarsono in Surabaya on 15 February]

[Text] [Sudarsono] How do you feel being appointed as the new Armed Forces commander?

[Sutrisno] I have no special feeling. As people with Pancasila ideology, we must be grateful to the Almighty God. Besides, it is important not to use our feeling only; we must also use reason. Both feeling and reason must be used. If we use reason alone, things will be dull, whereas if we use feeling only, it is like enjoying a bowl of meat soup.

Please do not raise the Armed Forces commander issue again. You can just write what Benni [Murdani] said about it. In the meantime, I will pray for your happiness.

[Sudarsono] But the announcement is surprising because normally the post of an Armed Forces commander is announced simultaneously with a new cabinet lineup.

[Sutrisno] No, it is not surprising. My advice is do not be taken by surprise easily. Indonesians are great people who are not easily taken by surprise. Just act naturally.

[Sudarsono] Will the Armed Forces undergo any changes under your coming leadership?

[Sutrisno] Please do not ask this question now—perhaps later on. The fact is that we Indonesians want to continue our existence. You know that we gained our independence through our blood and sweat. We'll never allow ourselves to go under the yoke of colonialism again. It is definitely wrong if we return to colonialism.

Colonialism must be viewed in its widest sense, not just the physical sense we saw in the past. Well, it is now time to show your ability. Where are the Indonesian people heading for? Are they now stagnant? It is necessary to enhance our insight and sensitivity and learn new things. As an educated people, we are getting better, more confident, and more mature all the time. Therefore,

when you reporters asked me if I was surprised with the appointment, my answer is no. Do not be taken by surprise easily. This great nation must be full of confidence.

[Sudarsono] What is the most serious challenge now?

[Sutrisno] This developing nation faces a lot of challenges. However, we must actually appreciate this difficult time because we have plenty of potentials and hopes. We have manpower, and if we provide the skill for the people, we can utilize our vast land and seas.

During my recent world tour, I saw many nations the lack our vast resources. They face bleak prospects during these difficult times. What about us? Will we die in our land of plenty? I do not think so. Therefore, all of us, journalists, farmers, technocrats, Armed Forces personnel, and others must work together and utilize our available resources. Hard work and unity are our slogans.

[Sudarsono] Will the Indonesian Armed Forces be streamlined by trimming down its size again?

[Sutrisno] It has already been trimmed. Therefore, we should not overdo things. We want it to be medium-sized and we can always evaluate its performance from time to time. Either too small and too large is undesirable.

[Sudarsono] Do you think that the regeneration process in the Armed Forces is a heavy burden?

[Sutrisno] We should not look at life from the point of view of whether or not it carries a heavy burden. What is more important is a sense of responsibility. Some people have a heavy burden in their lives and they do not like the responsibility that goes along with it. We know from the science of management that there are several types of people. There are those who only want to enjoy the pleasant part of things. There are others who want power but are unable to give substance to their power. The ideal people are those who always want to improve themselves.

[Sudarsono] What is your philosophy?

[Sutrisno] As an Indonesian, Pancasila is my philosophy. As a religious person, I also have my own philosophy, namely, a sense of resignation to the will of God, who ordains people's destiny. However, this resignation should not be equated with passiveness. It should mean that we must still make great efforts because we are endowed with reason and emotion. We must have good will toward others. We must not harbor ill will against our friends. Then we can work together, and more importantly, we experience no tension in our hearts.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Continues Visit BK260755 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0658 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Jakarta, February 26 (ANTARA/OANA)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Dr Peter Varkonyi stated here Thursday evening that President Suharto's visit to Hungary in 1985 had a great and positive impact on the relations between the two countries, mainly in the trade and economic fields.

And there are no political obstacles which could harm the further strengthening of these bilateral relations, Varkonyi said in a special interview with ANTARA and the English daily the INDONESIAN OBSERVER at a hotel here.

He further explained his 3-day mission to Indonesia is to explore possibilities of enhancing economic and trade relations which have shown an upward trend lately, mainly after 1985, with a surplus always in favour of Indonesia.

We want an improvement in the balance of trade. We want Indonesia to step up its imports from Hungary, he said.

Data obtained by ANTARA show that at the time of President Suharto's visit to Hungary in 1985, the balance of trade between the two countries reached only US\$ 20.85 million, out of which US\$ 13.05 million were accounted for by Indonesia's exports.

In 1986, the trade value went up to US\$ 65.5 million, of which US\$ 55 million were for Indonesian exports.

In 1987 however, the trade value decreased to US\$ 57.6 million with a surplus for Indonesia recording an export value of US\$ 45.3 million.

The figures shown by the balance of trade were still too small compared with the greater possibilities which could be achieved, Varkonyi said. He also disagreed that political obstacles were the cause of the setback. The obstacles are common obstacles, such as the great distance between the two countries and the economic recession, he added.

Varkonyi, who arrived here Wednesday, said, his country is interested in participating in the financing of various government development projects, mainly those funded by the World Bank.

Hungary has won three tenders from the World Bank, which are proofs of Hungary's competitiveness, he said.

In the framework of enhancing economic relations, Hungary is interested to establish joint ventures or invest capital in indonesia.

On cooperation in the fields of science and technology, Varkonyi said, Hungary can offer cooperation suitable to Indon/sia's requirements in agro-business and animal husbandry.

Asked about Hungary's policy on denuclearization, Varkonyi said his country supports fully the concept for the establishment of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality (ZOPFAN) in Southeast Asia as well as the denuclearization of the South Pacific region.

But one should realize, he said, that denuclearization, the more so at the world level, could not be carried out all at once but should be done step by step.

The crucial problem is, according to Varkonyi, the use of nuclear [as received] in the militarization of outer space, which will pose the greatest danger.

Varkonyi further expressed support to ASEAN efforts which seek a settlement in the Kampuchean problem through peaceful means and involving all interested parties.

He also said that he had discussed various global problems with his Indonesian counterpart, Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, and that they had similar views on many problems.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Dr Peter Varkonyi paid a courtesy call on President Suharto Thursday morning and had a two-hour meeting with Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja.

The Hungarian foreign minister is scheduled to leave Jakarta on Saturday.

Correction To Hungarian Talks With Suharto

The following correction to the item subheaded "Discusses Trade With Suharto," published in the 25 February East Asia DAILY REPORT on page 27: Column 2, last paragraph: ...Varkonyi and the president discussed, among other topics, efforts to promote... (correcting the phrase "Varkonyi, the president, and others present, discussed efforts to promote")

Laos

Commentary on Former Thai Premier's Remarks BK261122 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 26 Feb 88

["Attempts To Harm Lao-Thai Relations"—KPL headline]

[Text] V.entiane, February 26 (OANA-KPL)—Basing its argument on ex-Thai Prime Minister Khukrit Pramot's arrogant and trouble-seeking statement broadcasted by BBC (Thai language) on February 23, 1988, today's

PASASON commentary brands this Thai public personality as a war-hungry provocateur who is thirsty for blood brought about by armed confrontation between the two neighbours—Laos and Thailand.

Khukrit Pramot irresponsibly said in Chiang Mai (Thailand) on February 22: "There will be no peace unless Thailand adopts a tough policy... Thai troops should cross the Mekong (main Lao-Thai border) then simply burn down Vientiane... without having to declare war..."

"Such announcement to the journalists," the leading Lao paper points out, "was aimed at undermining the recent agreement reached and pledges made by the two countries' military delegations in favour of restoring the long-standing good relations of kinship between Laos and Thailand."

The paper recapitulates that while most of the people in Thailand and Laos as well as the good intentioned world public representing [as received] by the settlement of conflict by political, peaceful means, it is daringly untimely for a man of such status to make such public incitement.

The paper accordingly warns: "Now more than any time, in order not to let unpleasant history repeat itself, both Lao and Thai people should double and deepen their time-honoured tradition of friendship and kinship so as to foil and expose the dark designs of those bad elements in Thailand. Doing so, the paper observes in conclusion, the agreement and pledges painstakingly brought about by the efforts of the authorities of both sides can be honoured and the permanent state of peace and friendship between the two brotherly countries can be kept intact."

Editorial Hails Soviet Delegation's Visit BK251326 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 7 Feb 88

[Editorial: "Wholeheartedly Hail Visit of Soviet Army and Navy General Political Department to the LPDR"]

[Text] In the past 3 days—from 4 to 6 February—a delegation of the Soviet Army and Navy General Political Department led by Comrade General Aleksey Dmitriyevich Lizichev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and head of the General Political Department of the Soviet Army and Navy paid an official friendship visit to the LPDR at the invitation of the LPA General Political Department.

During its stay in our country, the Soviet delegation paid a courtesy call on Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Comrade General Khamtai Siphandon, Political Bureau member of the LPRP Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense of the LPDR. It also held a meeting and exchanged lessons with a delegation of the LPA General Political Department.

As a consequence of this visit, the long-standing relations and all-round cooperation between the two nations and two armies of Laos and the Soviet Union will be further strengthened and developed fruitfully for the benefit of both peoples and in the interest of socialism and pure proletarian internationalism.

In the past, as well as in the present, the Soviet Army has rendered precious and all-round assistance to the LPA, thereby significantly contributing to the consolidation and building of our well-organized and modern army. All our LPA cadres and combatants are profoundly grateful to the Soviet Army for this assistance. They are determined to strive to promote and expand the fruits of the assistance in the interests of friendship and to significantly contribute to the struggle for peace, stability, and security of mankind in the world.

The General Political Department of the Soviet Army and Navy has given assistance to the LPA General Political Department in many fields. This assistance is a significant factor contributing to building and consolidating our LPA and turning it into a well-organized and modern army serving as a strong armed forces to securely defend our sacred fatherland.

The delegation of the General Political Department of the Soviet Army and Navy visited Laos at a time while the entire Lao party, Army, and people are striving to bring into full play the resolution of the fourth party congress and are entering the 3d year of the implementation of the Second 5-year State Plan. It is also the time when, in the Soviet Union, the Soviet people are working to translate the resolutions of the 27th CPSU Congress into reality. Effective cooperation and assistance on the basis of the lofty spirit of proletarian internationalism between the two nations and two armies will significantly contribute to successfully fulfilling national defense and public security maintenance work as put forth in the resolutions of the congresses by the two parties of both countries.

The LPA wholeheartedly hails this visit of the delegation of the Soviet Army and Navy General Political Department. The exchange of experience between the two delegations will enable our two armies to achieve a new quality in improving and developing their party and political tasks on the basis of the change of viewpoints from the old ones, which do not conform to the situation, to the new and appropriate ones. The change is an important, basic goal in the consolidation of the political and ideological work in the ranks of the armed forces of both countries. We are convinced that the close relations between our two Army General Political Departments will be further nourished, strengthened, and developed fruitfully in the interest of our cause of defending and building our beloved countries as well as in the interest of lofty proletarian internationalism.

Philippines

President Aquino Heads Delegation to Mindanao HK260206 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] President Aquino will formally launch today a multimillion-peso development program for (?blighted) Mindanao provinces. The president, accompanied by her cabinet officials, is scheduled to arrive in Tawitawi this morning. There she will unwrap an assistance package that would include the construction of major roads, farm-to-market roads, school buildings, installation of water systems, renovation of the Sanga-Sanga Airport, and the improvement of existing infrastructure projects such as public markets and port facilities.

From Tawitawi, where the president will also hold a dialogue with top local leaders, she will proceed to Zamboanga City to take up with other local officials the peace and order situation as well as the assistance needed by the city. The president will also conduct an ocular inspection of other existing projects in Tawitawi and Zamboanga City.

Cabinet officials who will accompany the president are Transportation Secretary Rainerio Reyes, Agriculture Secretary Carlos Dominguez, Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon, Natural Resources Secretary Fulgencio Factoran Jr, and Budget Secretary Guillermo Carague. The highlights of her visits to the two places will be the formal naming of the nominees to the Regional Consultative Council for the region.

Givess Speech in Zamboanga City HK260855 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in English 0536 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Speech by President Corazon C. Aquino at Edwin Andrews Air Base chapel, Zamboanga City; monitored in progress—live]

[Text] Congresswoman Maria Clara Lobregat, Chairperson Elnorita Tugung, Mayor and Mrs (Detaliano Agan), General Cesar Tapia, governors, mayors, and other local officials of Western Mindanao, representatives of the religious sectors, and ethnic sectors, of Western Mindanao, Speaker Mitra, Senator Rasul, the honorable members of the cabinet, fellow workers, and other fellow workers in government, /my beloved countrymen/ [passage in slantlines in Tagalog], Assalamu 'alaykum [Peace be upon you]:

As we all know, this is not the first time I have come to Mindanao, and I want to assure you this will definitely not be the last. But my visit today has a special significance. Today I am here to present to you the first fruit of a fresh government effort to address the urgent needs of our people.

On January 15, we started a service and action program designed to deliver to the people better means of meeting basic needs. This morning, I inspected a number of projects in the Province of Tawitawi. These were modest projects. They are not massive showcase features costing millions of dollars and counting many years to complete. I spent the most time reviewing the potable water needs of the province. The water districts of Bongao at present can service the nearly 5,000 households in its coverage for only 1 to 2 hours a day. I have asked the Local Water Facilities Administration to undertake the rehabilitation of Bongao's water system. In the meantime, the Department of Public Works and Highways is working on the construction of some 200 artesian wells all over the province. You may be wondering why I have even bothered to travel to Tawitawi. Let me say first of all, that Tawitawi is not the sole beneficiary of the government service and action program. Zamboanga City also stands to benefit and some of the Zamboanga projects have already begun. Through the program, for instance, I shall be able to keep my promise to upgrade the city's slaughterhouse. With the funds earmarked for the training of personnel and the purchase of slaughtering equipment and a hot water boiler, the [word indistinct] will enable the city to cope as a regional center of the trade in meat products for the domestic and export markets.

Another project is the ongoing construction of the (Dinwali-Britali Road) as well as of the Zamboanga-Pagadian-Cotabato Highway. When finally completed, the road network will link the predominantly Christian province of Zamboanga del Sur and the predominantly Muslim provinces of Lanao and Maguindanao. Also, the service and action program will invest this year a total of P55 million in Zamboanga City projects.

And we are going beyond even Zamboanga. The first stage of the program will cover, in addition to Zamboanga City and Tawitawi, 12 provinces in regions 9, 11, and 12. The cost of all these projects will amount to about P800 million. But the question remains: Why take time on Tawitawi? I have been told that no Philippine president has ever bothered to make an official visit to Tawitawi until today. Let my presence there this morning, therefore, convey a clear and compelling message: Tawitawi is part and parcel of the Philippines. Cory Aquino is as much the president of Tawitawi as she is the president of the Province of Tarlac. And Cory Aquino will abide by her sworn duty to protect the territorial integrity, the national sovereignty, and the democratic constitution of the Philippines.

But I did not travel many hundreds of miles this morning merely to make a symbolic statement. Symbols are important, but are more effective when anchored on substance. I went to Tawitawi to see for myself that the projects I have ordered implemented last month are actually being carried out. Let me stress that the projects under the service and action program are not public relations projects. It is the Constitution overwhelmingly ratified by our people that prescribes the formation of

the RCC as a step towards assisting Congress in formulating the organic act for the autonomous region in Mindanao. This week, therefore, we have established two pillars of the peace strategy which I presented on October 2d. The Regional Consultative Commission addresses the political issue of autonomy. The service and action program responds to the urgent concerns of our people. The processes followed in selecting candidates for the RCC, and in choosing the projects for the service and action programs cling faithfully to the principles I have laid down on October 2d. This government will deal not just with the MNLF and with all Muslim Filipinos, not just with Muslim Filipinos, but with all sectors in Mindanao, and not only with the political, but also with the development agenda.

These are small seeds we are planting, with the launching of the RCC and the service and action program. It is perhaps fortunate that Tawitawi and Zamboanga could figure prominently in this proclamation of these initiatives. Both places have provided in the past rich soil for small seeds. Some 600 years ago (Tomis Karim Almatdun), an Arab missionary, traveled through the Malay Peninsula, and reaching (Simunil) in Tawitawi began teaching the tenets of Islam. The post of the first mosque built in the Philippines still stands on the island today. And you know what rich harvest the seed planted by (Sharif Karim) had reaped. Zamboanga City, as we were told earlier, is celebrating today the 51st anniversary of the founding as a chartered city. But its history as an outpost of the colonial capital of Manila dates back to the 17th century, and it remains today the vibrant center of culture, commerce, and government in Southern Mindanao. But this task that confronts us begins in the better life for people of Mindanao, is large and complex, and we can certainly use the help of those countries which share the faith of our Muslim brothers. We appreciate the concern of the Muslim countries for the welfare of the Muslim Filipinos, but we ask them to consider the steps that our government is taking to meet the legitimate demands and redress the legitimate grievances of our Muslim brothers, and we urge them to refrain from any action which could encourage extremist elements to embark on a path of violence. The primary consideration must be, above all, the welfare of the Muslim Filipinos. Recourse to war will not promote their welfare. This government is pledged to a policy of affirmative action to give the Muslim Filipinos their rightful share of the fruit of development. But we need time to permit the seed of peace we have planted today to take root and to ripen. With so many forces in the field clinging to their firearms, violence, unfortunately, remains a possibility. And we would be remiss in our duty if we neglect to prepare for it. Let me call, therefore, on the Armed Forces to remain vigilant against the threat of extremist elements. It shall be their duty to hold the reins, to give the government the time and space to pursue its programs for peace.

This government has faithfully followed a policy of peace and reconciliation. In the face of provocation, it has refused to retaliate with violence to that point when it has been criticized for indecisiveness or lack of political will. We will bend when we can, to avoid shedding of blood of our people. But let not moderation be mistaken for weakness. Even the bamboo can only bend so far before it reaches the point of breaking. We must therefore, give them the counsel and full warning. We will seek as best we can, but we will fight if fight we must. [applause] The history of Tawitawi and Zamboanga remind us however, that war between brothers need not come to pass. Tawitawi is predominantly Muslim but has lately proven hospitable to Christian settlers who gain livelihood in the province. And the majority of the Christian population of Zamboanga have had a commendable record of peaceful and productive relations with its Muslim communities. I remain hopeful therefore, that the seeds we have sown through the Regional Consultative Commission and the service and action program will mature and help to restore the faith of Muslims and Christians alike in the commitment of this government to peace and progress in Mindanao, Inshallah [God willing].

Troops Seal Borders in Northern Mindanao HK260333 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Government troops have been stationed on the borders of Bukidnon, north Cotabato and Lanao del Sur to prevent the entry of armed bands from the separatist MNLF. Brigadier General Jesus Altuna, Regional Command chief, says Government forces led by Bukidnon PC commander Colonel Ibarra Mariano encountered MNLF rebels in barangay Bomonay, Damulog, Bukidnon. Altuna said he has directed Mariano to block MNLF troops in the area. A military intelligence report says that the Muslim rebels are in possession of modern firearms such as rocket launchers and AK-47's.

MNLF Reportedly Thwarted HK260707 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan In Tagalog 0400 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] In Mindanao, government troops succeeded in preventing attempts by a group of armed Tausug MNLF rebels to enter northern Mindanao to build a camp there.

Colonel Bobby Lastimoso, chief of staff of the PC Regional Command, said that the rebels were led by Commander (Habib) whose followers have been monitored since last week on their way to Bukidnon.

The report further said that the rebels plan to attack Christian towns in Bukidnon and take people as hostages to use during encounters with soldiers.

Cause of Manila Explosion Undetermined HK260148 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] At least nine people were injured last night [25 February] during an explosion at the height of the fireworks display at EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] and Ortigas Avenue. Police cannot as yet determine

what caused the explosion but are certain that it was not from firecrackers. Injured were Daniel Suarez, Sheila Jimena, Maria Josefina Chang, Arnel Santos, Maria Meja, Rogelio Cruz, Josefina de Leon, Rodamin Lisang, and Oscar Bautista. They were taken to the Medical City Hospital for treatment of shrapnel wounds. Doctors said the wounds were superficial.

Aquino Says No Amnesty for Renegade Soldiers HK120220 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] President Aquino has ruled out the grant of amnesty to renegade soldiers facing rebellion charges in court now or in the future. Those with cases have to face the court, according to Mrs Aquino at yesterday's [25 February] celebration of the second anniversary of the People Power revolution that launched her government in February 1986.

As this developed, dismissed Colonel Gregorio Honasan, a RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] leader, denied his involvement in the Olalia kidnap-slaying in a recorded message aired over a television talk show last night. Army Lieutenant Colonel Victor Corpus denied reports that he linked any military officers or any RAM members to the Olalia slaying. National Bureau of Investigation Director Antonio Carpio described as hysterical and malicious charges that the government is trying to discredit the RAM by implicating its members or leaders in the Olalia murder. About 700 officers and men have been charged in military courts for their part in at least five coup attempts to topple the government in the last 2 years.

Corpus Says Reform Movement Behind Coup Plot HK261411 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1200 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Victor Corpus yesterday confirmed the planned coup d'etat which was called "God Save the Queen." According to him, this plan to overthrow the Aquino adminstration was hatched by the Reform the Armed Forces Movement. He said that he was asked by Navy Captain Rex Robles to take part in the scheme. Corpus explained that he did not answer Robles because it would have been unjust to overthrow the present government. He also testified that Secretary Fidel Ramos had nothing to do with "God Save the Queen" plan. The charges filed by Robles' wife against Ramos for involvement in the failed coup were false, he added.

Paper Urges Ramos Appointment Confirmation HK260951 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 26 Feb 88 p 6

[Editorial: "Secretary Fidel Ramos—Reliable and Experienced"]

[Text] On the accusations that Secretary Ramos was in on the coup plans of 1986, President Corazon C. Aquino stated that Ramos had been tried many times and had been found to be loyal to her and the Constitution. It would have been hard for the President to find some-body else for Defense Secretary at the present time.

It has been said that while Mr Ramos is already a civilian he is still essentially a military man and that, therefore, his nomination as Defense Secretary may violate the principle of civilian supremacy. This, of course, is not a strong argument against his nomination.

The appointment of a general as Defense Secretary is not new. In the past, Gen. Jesus Vargas, Gen. Ernesto Mata, and only recently Gen. Rafael Ileto were appointed Defense Secretaries and they served the country well in such capacity. Besides, Ramos' training at West Point and his repeated assurances in the past make it unlikely that he will violate the principle of civilian supremacy.

On the other hand, the President, having been associated with him for almost two years, has found him to be reliable. Unquestionably, he has the experience to deal with the peculiar situations that have cropped up in the military in recent years as shown by his sober approaches to the various problems.

The public impression is that Secretary Ramos is a clean-cut and honest man who has lived the role of a model soldier throughout his career. In his younger years, he took the trouble of acquiring a graduate degree in management which, we believe, he has put to good use on his assumption of high office in the Armed Forces.

His knowledge and experience cannot probably be matched by many civilians close enough to the President to be a member of her Cabinet.

We hope the Commission on Appointments gives its consent to his nomination as Defense Secretary which will help contribute to the peace and stability of our country.

Enrile Said Resigned From Coalition HK260929 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 26 Feb 88 pp 1, 10

[By Marlen Ronquillo]

[Text] Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile has resigned from the Grand Alliance for Democracy [GAD], cracking the once solid opposition coalition, sources told the INQUIRER yesterday.

In bolting GAD, the former defense minister was joined reportedly by other prominent oppositionists.

Enrile and his group, which includes former MP Homobono Adaza, bolted GAD after their colleagues rejected the senator's proposal to dismantle it and gather all oppositionists under the Nacionalista Party [NP]. The break in the opposition ranks came during a secret meeting of 15 GAD leaders last Friday night at the Makati Sports Club according to the sources.

"Enrile left a frustrated man," said an INQUIRER source who attended the meeting. "He thought all along he could influence the coalition's decisions."

Several GAD leaders—Francisco Tatad, Wilson Gamboa, Eva Estrada Kalaw—reportedly took turns in rejecting Enrile's proposal to dismantle the coalition in favor of the NP.

The GAD leaders also told Enrile of their plan to revitalize the coalition and gather all opposition parties and personalities under it.

According to sources, Enrile wanted to dismantle GAD in line with a commitment to the Laurels, who lead the other faction of the NP. The other faction is led by Enrile, though the nominal chairman is former Rizal Gov. Isidro Rodriguez.

The sources said Enrile and Vice President Salvador H. Laurel approved the merger of the two factions of the NP on condition that GAD, where Enrile is the highest elective official, and the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO), which Laurel heads, would be both dismantled.

GAD leaders, though acknowledging Enrile's loss, are nonetheless hopeful the coalition could recover from the split and move ahead without the highest elected official of the opposition.

GAD leaders said they have yet to determine the consequences of Enrile's breakaway.

Aside from Adaza, former Constitutional Commission member Blas F. Ople and Rodriguez shared Enrile's view that the coalition should be dismantled in favor of a revitalized NP.

Laurel is also encountering difficulty convincing UNIDO leaders to disband the party for the revitalized NP.

Several UNIDO leaders, although carrying the party name, are still loyal to President Aquino and want to remain in the ruling coalition, sources said.

According to sources barely "four to five" of the 15 or so UNIDO congressmen would join Laurel should he declare a formal break with the ruling coalition and join the political opposition.

Columnist on Negative Image in U.S. Press HK260947 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 26 Feb 88 p 5

[From "Political Tidbits" column by Belinda Olivares-Cunanan: "RP's [Republic of the Philippines] Negative Image in U.S. Press"]

[Text] It was a morning when most everyone in that VIP crowd at EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] apparently, felt good about the world. As this columnist remarked to Labor Secretary Frank Drilon, who came with his wife and two young children, one would think we had no problem in the world.

The mood for us wouldn't stay that way for long, however. For among the topics of conversation between presidential assistant Flerida Ruth Romero, Trade Secretary Jose Concepcion and this columnist, as we linked hands at EDSA, was the frightfully negative image the Philippines had come acquire in the U.S. press. I told them about a dinner I and some government officials had a few evenings ago at the residence of PCGG [Presidential Commission on Good Government] Commissioner Quentin Doromal. The honorees, some balikbayans [Filipino returnees from abroad] from New York, told us that the Filipinos in the U.S. despair of the completely negative reportings about this country in the U.S. press, which was affecting the American people as well. In fact, the urologist balikbayan said, their friends were discouraging them from making this visit to their native land as their impression was that the Philippines was in anarchy, the NPAs are about to overrun the place, and that Cory Aquino's government had done absolutely nothing positive in the last two years.

Both Flery Romero and Joe Concepcion recognized this negative image, and in fact Flery pointed out that when she was in New York not too long ago, she made it a point to answer an unfavorable article in THE NEW YORK TIMES, stressing her official position in order to get the letter printed. Concepcion noted that to get foreign investors to come here, he and other government officials have to do "man-to-man guarding" and tremendous "ligaw" [courtship]. But once they come over, however, he said, they invariably have no difficulty signing up, because they realize that what they read about this country abroad and what exist here are two different things.

As I had stated in a previous column, these were observations are raised too by a number of multinational firm executives here who have the same difficulty coaxing their people to come over, due to the adverse publicity abroad.

We have been mulling this over and the invariable question is, why are things exaggerated abroad in the negative direction after that brief honeymoon with the foreign press in the first past EDSA months? Senate

President Salonga, who was also a guest in that balikbayan dinner, theorized that one reason is that the foreign press looks at the Philippine situation and problems from a First World point of view and standards, instead of from the viewpoint of a poor Third World country. This, Salonga stressed, is very unfair. Neither is it fair to say that Cory Aquino's administration has achieved nothing, he said, as he enumerated the many institutions that have been reestablished in the last two years. Moreover, the Senate President pointed out, it is very unfair to condemn the Philippine situation now, considering that the U.S. government had a lot to do with many of our current problems. In this last observation I agree with Senator Salonga wholeheartedly, particularly in the enormous foreign debt problem that we got mired in. It is common knowledge that a country's lending institutions are extensions of its foreign policy, and it is not remote that the American banks went into a wild lending spree with the Marcos regime because they wanted this country beholden to American interests.

In this connection, a dinner guest speculated that there could be some kind of conspiracy between the American government and certain sectors of the U.S. press to portray the Philippine government as extremely weak, unstable and bereft of achievement, in order to weaken its hand in the bargaining table during the review of the bases treaty starting this year.

Trade Secretary Concepcion indicated that the Philippine government has taken cognizance of the problem of a bad press abroad, and that a master plan has been devised between the Departments of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Public Information to combat this. There is a lead group of top-flight technocrats, among them press attaches, being developed for projection abroad. Concepcion points out that the three departments concerned would share facilities for this job. The lack of facilities is one problem hounding many embassies abroad. For instance, the Tokyo embassy does not have its own telefax equipment and has to borrow facilities from an agency of the trade department which is fortunately housed in the same building.

One thing that should be kept in mind is that the government should maximize use of human resources for this vital counteroffensive abroad, by making sure only highly qualified and competent people are sent, not political proteges.

Nuclear Weapons Seen as Key Bases Factor HK251415 Manila THE PHILIPPINE STAR in English 24 Feb 88 p 4

[From "Jaywalker" column by Art A. Borjal: "Philippine Sovereignty a Myth"]

[Text] As host country to the giant American military bases at Clark and Subic, the Philippines is unsurpassed in hospitality. Not only have we agreed to take for granted our alleged control over the United States facilities here; we have acquiesced to the American military's major decisions affecting the bases.

We have not tested the limits of our black-and-white powers over Clark and Subic. Perhaps, this is due to a misconception that the Americans will do us no harm. Perhaps, we also believe that the Americans can do as they please as far as the two bases are concerned.

We have remained content with the cosmetics in the revised Philippines-US military bases agreement—that the Philippine flag can fly inside Clark and Subic and that the base commander should be a Filipino. We have not tried to exercise effective control and supervision over what is going on inside Clark and Subic.

Unfortunately, the Americans have not responded positively to the Filipinos' gesture of hospitality. Recently, the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Command (CINCPAC), the Honolulu-based mother unit of Clark and Subic, issued a directive saying the base authorities should neither confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons here. But the jolting part of the CINCPAC directive sounded very awkward. It said that in cases of nuclear accident, statements can be issued.

This portion is a virtual confession of the presence of nuclear weapons inside Clark or Subic. How can this now be reconciled with the Constitution's anti-nuke provision? But what's galling is that the Americans do not seem to have any intention to give a straight answer on whether or not there are nuclear weapons stored inside their bases here.

The directive underscores the Americans' disregard for our welfare, national security, and health and environment laws. To them, only in cases of a major nuclear accident will a statement be made. The "neither confirm nor deny" directive places the Americans above our laws. It looks like a clear case of an insult on our sovereignty.

Even Congress is undecided on what to do with the three nuclear bills filed before it. In a Senate caucus last Monday, the committee on national defense and security and foreign relations failed to summon enough will to move three anti-nuke bills for floor discussions.

The three bills essentially seek to ban the entry, sale, movement, storage and construction of anything with a nuclear component. Heavy penalties are proposed for sellers, buyers and transporters of nuclear weapons, facilities and gadgets. There is another bill which seeks the creation of a Nuclear Commission to effectively monitor the entry of nuclear craft and facilities into the country.

At the Senate's closed-door session on Monday, there was great debate on what to do with the three bills. One senator said that an early and firm decision to pass an

anti-nuclear law would limit the options of the Philippine government in discussing the U.S. bases issue. Another senator differed, saying that such a firm decision would strengthen the Philippines bargaining position. The impasse was broken when someone suggested that more public hearings should be held to sound out the people's sentiments. Getting the public sentiment is the same line being espoused by American officials.

The anti-nuclear measure is one thing Congress cannot ignore. It is a constitutional provision, although the 1987 Constitution itself is not very firm and direct on the anti-nuke policy. The Constitution carries a proviso that the government may set aside the anti-nuke policy when "national interst so requires." This escape clause can certainly be used as basis for allowing U.S. nuclear weapons and silos here.

The U.S. will have no use for bases that can only serve conventional warfare. What it needs are bases that can counter the nuclear weapons of the Soviets. If Subic cannot be a temporary homeport of nuclear-powered ships and if Clark cannot store nuclear warheads, the U.S. will move out of the Philippines without any prodding. Now you know why the Americans are staying put at Clark and Subic.

Thailand

Prem Message to Laos Proposes Political Talks BK251410 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1300 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Message of Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon to LPDR Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihan, read by Foreign Ministry spokesman Sarot Chawanawirat on 25 February—recorded]

[Text] 24 February 1988

To: Your Excellency Kaysone Phomvihan,

In connection with the 17 February joint statement by the Thai and Lao military delegations in Bangkok regarding the cease-fire, disengagement of troops, and holding political negotiations, I wish to express great pleasure over the successful negotiations, conducted in a brotherly manner, by the military delegations of both countries. The negotations are yielding constructive results for peace between our two countries. And it now appears that the cease-fire and disengagement of troops have proceeded well in the spirit of Thai-Lao fraternal cooperation. For this reason, I wish to inform you that the Thai Government accepts the recommendation by the Thai and Lao military delegations for peaceful political negotiations to eliminate the border conflict in the disputed area in accordance with law and justice based on the 1907 French-Siamese Treaty and related maps.

To implement this quickly, I invite your excellency to send a Lao delegation to Bangkok to negotiate with the Thai side to seek a permanent end to the dispute between the two countries over this issue. These negotiations can begin with consultations between both countries' foreign ministers to lay down the framework, scope, and form of an agreement. In the next step, official teams from both countries will meet and make recommendations to both governments, or consultations could begin at the level of the official teams. I suggest that the meeting begin on 29 February in Bangkok. A following meeting can be decided upon by the two delegations. After approval [of the recommendations] by both governments, the Thai foreign minister will go to Vientiane to sign the agreement with the Lao foreign minister.

With good wishes and respect,

[Signed] General Prem Tinsulanon, Thai prime minister

General Reports on Lao Fighting Aftermath BK260145 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Feb 88 p 4

[Text] More than 100 Thai troops were killed in the Ban Romklao conflict with Laos, Third Army chief-of-staff Maj-Gen Yingyot Chotiphimai said yesterday.

An exact figure had yet to be reached as a number of troops were missing, he said, and an aerial inspection of a hill showed there were more than 10 Thai and more than 10 Laotian bodies still to be recovered.

Maj-Gen Yingyot said the bodies could not yet be recovered because mines made helicopter landings hazardous, but troops were making their way to the sites on the ground.

Thai and Laotian teams would continue operations to defuse mines in the battle area, he said, but progress was slow because they had been thickly planted.

The chief-of-staff said troops had to move carefully even though the Laotian teams said they had cleared certain areas. "We are still unsure because we found mines and have been setting them off in areas they cleared."

Minefields were particularly thick on and around Hill 1428, from which the Laotian forces have withdrawn to their side of the Heuang river.

Commenting on the mutual pull-out, Maj-Gen Yingyot said: "As far as we have seen, they are sincere."

After the troop pull-out, no logging would be allowed in the areas, he said. An estimated 1,000 trees that have already been felled could be hauled away if proper documentation is provided, he said. As talks to settle the conflict continued, Army deputy Commander-in-Chief Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun vowed to act against officials abusing funds or items donated by the public to soldiers battle. [as published]

The general's remarks came in the wake of mounting criticism that some of the donations had been misused by some officers.

He said anyone found to have misused the funds would be deemed a traitor and "would certainly be punished".

He also called on the public to inform the army if they have information relating to any such malpractices.

So far the army has obtained more than 36 million baht in cash with donated items worth about 5-6 million baht, he said.

The fund will be used to buy medical equipment and weapons in accordance with the donors' wish.

Gen Wanchai said he would propose to Army chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut that some of this fund be spent to aid relatives of the soldiers who were killed, wounded or disabled in the battle.

The assistance would include the education of their children, he said.

The general added, however, that he was considering asking the army chief to close the Ban Romklao fundraising centre.

Government Establishes 200-Mile Economic Zone BK260059 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Feb 88 p 4

[Text] Thailand yesterday announced the establishment of a 200-mile exclusive economic zone in the Gulf of Thailand adjacent to that of Malaysia.

The proclamation says: "It is now de and appropriate to issue a further proclamation, pursuant to the generally-accepted principles of international law, that outer limit of the exclusive economic zone of the Kingdom of Thailand in the Gulf of Thailand adjacent to the exclusive economic zone of Malaysia is formed by the lines connecting each geographical coordinate as follows:

No 1, Latitude 6 degree 14'.5 N, Longitude 102 degree 05'.6 E; No 2, Latitude 6 degree 27'.5 N, Longitude 102 degree 10'.0 E; No 3, Latitude 6 degree 27'.8 N, Longitude 102 degree 09'.6 E; No 4, Latitude 6 degree 50'.0 N, Longitude 102 degree 21'.2 E; No 5, Latitude 6 degree 53'.0 N, Longitude 102 degree 34'.0 E; No 6, Latitude 7 degree 03'.0 N, Longitude 103 degree 06'.0 E. No 7, Latitude 7 degree 20'.0 N, Longitude 103 degree 39'.0 E; No 8, Latitude 7 degree 22'.0 N, Longitude 103 degree 42'.5 E.

Vietnam

Paper Decries PRC Actions in Archipelagoes BK260714 Hanoi VNA in English 0707 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 26—NHAN DAN, central paper of the Communist Party of Vietnam, today frontpages an article entitled: "Hands Off Vietnam's Truong Sa [Spratly] Archipelago!"

The paper says:

"The situation in the Truong Sa Archipelago and the Eastern Sea as a whole is becoming dangerously tense due to the Chinese authorities' brazen violations of Vietnam's territorial sovereignty there. What is particularly serious is that they have landed their military forces on Chu Thap and Chau Vien, two coral reefs in that archipelago which is part of the Vietnamese territory.

"In a statement on Feb. 20, a spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry severely condemned the Chinese side's brazen violations of Vietnamese territory. The spokesman reasserted Vietnam's sovereignty over the Truong Sa archipelago, and held the Chinese side fully responsible for serious consequences of their wrongdoings. Two days later, the Chinese countered with a statement of its Foreign Ministry spokesman the content of which is to misrepresent history and distort truth. Relying on what they called 'China's sovereignty' over the Truong Sa Archipelago, the Beijing authorities described their acts as 'normal', and even 'legal.'

"We resolutely reject these deceitful allegations of the Chinese side. The truth is that the Beijing authorities are escalating to a serious extent their plan of violating Vietnam's territorial sovereignty. Their sending of a big number of warships and armed forces into Vietnamese waters in the Truong Sa Archipelago and to Chu Thap and Chau Vien is not 'normal' at all, but is a very dangerous development fraught with very bad consequences. These acts on the part of the Chinese side not only grossly violate the territorial sovereignty and threaten the security of Vietnam but also menace peace and security in the whole of Southeast Asia.

"Once again, we affirm that the Truong Sa and Hoang Sa [Paracel] Archipelagoes are Vietnam's territories. The Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has published two white books citing adequate and accurate facts about this historical reality while rejecting the Chinese side's groundless, fabricated and illegal allegations on its so-called sovereignty over these two archipelagoes. White book made public by the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry on August 7, 1979 affirmed: 'The Truong Sa and Hoang Sa Archipelagoes are Vietnamese territories. Vietnamese kings, as state power, were the first to occupy, organise, control and explore them. We

have solid historical and legal grounds to prove Vietnam's indisputable sovereignty over these two archipelagoes.' 'China's encroachments on Vietnam's territorial sovereignty in the Truong Sa Archipelago are premeditated acts in furtherance of its long-term design to control the Eastern Sea and to expand to Southeast Asia. The threat posed by this attempt to the nations in the region is being all the more clearly exposed by China's current activities in the Truong Sa Archipelago.'

"The Chinese began by conducting military exercises, reconnaissance and surveys, and erecting markers. Then they sent more warships for more serious activities in the area. That China is trying to carry out its expansionist design cannot but put the countries in Southeast Asia, particularly those in the Eastern Sea, as well as the world public, on guard.

"We draw public attention to this dangerous situation and call on the countries in the Eastern Sea, Southeast Asia and the world to promptly raise their voice in protest against China's acts and prevent it from carrying out its design.

"It should be added that with their violations of Vietnam's territorial sovereignty in the Truong Sa Archipelago, the Chinese authorities are deliberately running counter to the trend for detente prevailing in the world and stoking tension in this region for the purpose of curbing the trend for dialogue in settling regional disputes including the Kampuchean issue.

"The Vietnamese people are attached to peace and wish to solve all disputes through dialogue. Yet we have time and again voiced our iron-clad determination to exercise our sacred right to defend our territorial sovereignty. In the interests of the peoples of the two countries and for peace in the region, China—a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council with a great responsibility for peace—must stop all military activities in violation of Vietnam's sovereignty. We call on the Chinese authorities to think and act with reason. We resolutely demand that they immediately withdraw all their armed forces from the Truong Sa Archipelago and end all their violations of Vietnam's territorial sovereignty. China must answer for all consequences of its wrong-doings."

VNA Documents Truong Sa, Hoang Sa Islands BK251628 Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 25—The coral archipelagoes of Hoang Sa [Paracels] and Truong Sa [Spratlys], located respectively at 170 nautical miles from Da Nang and 250 nautical miles from Cam Ranh, are Vietnamese territories as has long been known by Western navigators who called them Paracels and Spratly.

In the past it was known that in the Bien Dong also called Eastern Sea (by Vietnamese) and China Sea or South China Sea lay a vast area which was very dangerous for navigation because of its numerous reefs upon which boats can go aground or capize. The Vietnamese called it variously Bai Cat Vang, Hoang Sa, Truong Sa: Dai Hoang Sa, Dai Truong Sa, Van Ly Truong Sa... For many centuries Western navigators, particularly the Portuguese, Dutch, British and French called this area Pracel, Paracel or Parcel, and recorded it on the maps by a dotted line in the Bien Dong. Thus both the Vietnamese living on the shores of the Eastern Sea and the Western navigation and geography, two separate archipelagoes in the Eastern Sea: Hoang Sa (Paracels) and Truong Sa (Spratly or Spratley). [sentence as received] Hence such names as Bai Cat Vang, Hoang Sa, Truong Sa, Dai Hoang Sa, Van Ly Truong Sa on ancient Vietnamese maps or in old geography or history books, and Pracel, Parcel Paracels in the books and maps of Western navigators and missionaries in the 19th century encompass both archipelagoes.

These archipelagoes occupy different positions in the Eastern Sea but share some common features:

First, all their islands are coral islands.

Second, all these islands are low and small, about 5-6 metres at most above the water, and are spread over a large area. Truong Sa covers 160,000 square kilometres, 12 times the area of Hoang Sa. The biggest island in Hoang Sa is Linh Con (Lincoln) about 2 square kilometres; the biggest in Truong Sa is the Ba Binh (Itu Aba) about 0.6 square kilometre. The total land area of each archipelago is about 10 square kilometres.

Thus, both archipelagoes are taking on increasing strategic importance, for they lie on the routes linking the Pacific to the Indian Ocean; Asia's crucial eastern flank to the rest of Asia, and to Europe and Africa. To control these archipelagoes is to control the maritime and aerial navigation routes of the Bien Dong.

Before launching its war to conquer Southeast Asia and South Asia, Japanese militarism occupied Hoang Sa and set up a submarine Base on Truong Sa.

Fourth [numbering as received], both archipelagoes are rich in natural wealth; guano (estimated at several million tonnes), marine products from fish to lobster, tortoises, abaloni, shellfish, and above all large potential oil and gas reserves.

Hoang Sa Archipelago. [subhead]

Hoang Sa (Paracels, which the Chinese call Xisha), lies near the entrance of Bac Bo Gulf, about 120 nautical miles from Re Island, a Vietnamese offshore island, and about 170 nautical miles from Da Nang. The archipelago lies approximately between 111 degrees and 113 degrees longitude east of Greenwich, 15 degrees 45 minutes and

17 degrees 5 minutes latitude north. The total number of islands depends on the method of counting them for, apart from the islands proper, there are numerous shoals and reefs which lie awash or which only emerge when the tide ebbs. In all, there are roughly 30 islands, shoals and reefs. There are large reefs some 10 to 20 metres below the water like Bremen Reefs, Jehangire Reef, etc. There are immersed flat-topped islands at shallow depths; typical of these is Discovery Reef 30-35 km long and 5-6 km wide. There are also crescent-shaped reefs with an outer ring (often emerging at low tide) enclosing a calm lagoon 8-10 km deep, such as Antelope Reef, Dao Bac (North Reef), Bang Bay (Bombay Reef)...The islands proper are of various types: bare sand banks or sand banks with sparse vegetation or clumps of trees.

The archipelago includes two groups:

The eastern group, also called Amphitrite group, after the name of a French boat which was tranded there on its way to China in 1698. It has about 10 small islands, including: Dao Tay (West Bank) Dao Cay (Tree Island)

Dao Bac (North Island)
Dao Giua (Middle Island)

Dao Nam (South Island)

Dao Hon Da (Rocky Island)

Dao Phu Lam (Woody Island)

Dao Linh Con (Lincoln Island).

The western group, also called crescent group, after its shape. It has the following main islands: Dao Hoang Sa (Pattle Island)

Dao Huu Nhat (Robert Island)

Dao Quang Anh (Money Island)

Dao Quang Hoa (Duncan Island)

Dao Tri Ton (Triton Island)

Dao Duy Mong (Drumond Island).

The easternmost island is Lincoln, the southernmost is Triton.

After a scientific survey conducted in 1926 by Kremps, the director of the Nha Trang Oceanographic Institute, French hydrologist concluded that:

"The Paracels are but the end of a continental shelf which, owing to submarine terraces, prolongs the Annamese (Vietnamese) Cordilera from Cloud Pass between Hue and Tourance (Da Nang). To the west, the sea floor is less than 1,400 metres deep, while to the east the islands are bordered by depths reaching 5,000 metres and even more to the south.

Geologically, the Paracels are part and parcel of Vietnam."

Meteorologically, Hoang Sa Archipelago has no cold season, only a rainy season from June to December and a dry season from January to May. The mean temperature in January is 23 degrees C, in July 28 degrees C. The annual average rainfall is about 1,170 mm (according to

1933-43, 1948-62 figures). From June to August, the Hoang Sa area is hit by tropical storms. Storms also break out occasionally from September to January.

The islands' original vegetation has been destroyed by man. Most common now are coconut trees and filao pines; besides these there are bang bien (sea almonds) and mu u (calophyllum inophyllum). Under the taller trees grow convolunlaceae, gramineae and a number of other plants. According to Father H. Fontaine, all the plants on Hoang Sa Archipelago are to be found in Vietnam, particularly central Vietnam, from which they were imported by various means. There are no indigenous species.

The waters around the islands abound in a great many fish, shellfish, lobsters, tortoises and various kinds of algae. On the islands seagulls are the most common birds.

Guano is an interesting resource. After the 1926-1927 survey, French geologists concluded that guano deposits on Hoang Sa Archipelago may run to 10 million tonnes. According to the Ministry of the Economy of the former Saigon administration, the deposits on Hoang Sa (Pattle), Huu Nhat (Robert), Quang Anh (Money) and Duy Mong (Drumond) Islands vary between 3,200,000 and 4,200,000 tonnes.

Administratively, Hoang Sa Archipelago (including both Hoang Sa and Truong Sa) formerly belonged to Quang Nghia District, Quang Nam Province, as recorded in Do Ba (alias Con Dao) and Bui The Dat's maps. On 30 March 1938, King Bao Dai signed Ordinance No 10 whereby Hoang Sa Archipelago was merged with Thua Thien Province. On 15 June 1938, Governor-General of Indochina Jules Brevie set up an administrative unit in Hoang Sa Archipelago called the Hoang Sa Administrative Delegation attached to Thua Thien Province. On 5 May 1939, he signed a decree amending that of 1938 and establishing two administrative units: the Crescent group and dependencies on the one hand, and the Amphitrite group and dependencies on the other. Their seats lay respectively on Hoang Sa (Pattle) and Phu Lam (Woody) Island. On 13 July 1961, the Saigon administration merged Hoang Sa Archipelago with Quang Nam Province, and created an administrative unit for the entire archipelago called Dinh Hai commune attached to Hoa Vang District. On 21 October 1969, it merged Dinh Hai commune with Hoa Long commune of the same Hoa Vang District.

Truong Sa Archipelago. [subhead]

Truong Sa Archipelago (Spratly or Spratley), which the Chinese call Nansha and the Filipinos Kalayaan (excluding Truong Sa Island "Spratly"), lies about 250 nautical miles from Cam Ranh Bay and 210 nautical miles from Hon Hai Island. It is about 1,150 km from Hainan Island (China) and about 1,780 km from Taiwan. It lies south of

Hoang Sa Archipelago, between approximately 111 degrees 30 minutes and 117 degrees 20 minutes longitude east of Greenwich, 6 degrees 50 minutes and 12 degrees latitude north.

Like Hoang Sa Archipelago, Truong Sa Archipelago includes islands lying above water, islands and reefs which are awash or underwater reefs which emerge when the tide ebbs. In all there are about 100 islands, shoals and reefs. The main islands are: Song Tu Dong (Northeast Cay)

Song Tu Tay (Southbest Cay)
Thi Tu (Thitu)
Loaita (Loaita)
Nam Ai or Nam Yet (Namyit)
Sinh Ton (Sin Cowe)
Truong Sa (Spratly)
An Bang (Amboyna Cay)
Ba Binh (Itu Aba)
Vinh Vien (Nanshan)
Ben Lac (West York)
Cong Do (Commondore)

All the islands, shoals and reef are coral, a few metres above or under the water. Their climate, resources, vegetation and fauna are similar to those of Hoang Sa Archipelago.

According to the survey made by the French laboratory ship "De Lanessan" in 1926 and 1933 in the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa area, Vietnam's geological limit follows the 100-fathom isobath. This is the limit of Vietnam's continental shelf. It thus encompasses both the Hoang Sa and the Truong Sa Archipelagoes as well as the entire submerged area within the 100-fathom isobath.

Worthy of mention in Truong Sa Archipelago is the Tizoard shoal and reef, a sizeable area of islands and atolls lying upon a scale 80m below sea level.

As for fish, according to the Naga Expedition (California University) to the Truong Sa area there are many kinds of midwater fish. There are also numerous flocks of birds, and shoals of fish near the surface of the water. The expedition concluded that the area is extremely rich in fish.

According to the Japanese laboratory-ship "Kyochio Maru 52" operating in the Bien Dong, most of the fish in this area and particularly in the Truong Sa area migrate following seasonal winds in small scattered bands, except for the halibut.

Administratively, according to a decree of Cochinchina's Governor J. Krautheimer (21 December 1933), Truong Sa Archipelago was merged with Ba Ria Province. Then by a decree of 22 October 1956 altering the boundaries and names of Saigon Cholon and the provinces and provincial capitals of South Vietnam, the Saigon authorities merged Truong Sa Archipelago with Phuoc Tuy Province. Finally, on 6 September 1973, they signed a

decree merging the islands of Truong Sa (Spratly), An Bang (Amboyna Cay) Ba Binh (Itu Aba), Song Tu Dong (Northeast Cay), Song Tu Tay (Southwest Cay), Loaita, Thi Tu, Nam Ai (Namyit), Sinh Ton (Sin Cowe) and other adjacent islands with Phuoc Hai commune, Dat Do District, Phuoc Tuy (now Dong Nai) Province.

Envoy Speaks on Solution to Afghan Conflict BK251545 Hanoi VNA in English 1530 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 25—The Republic of Afghanistan is ready to sit for negotiations in Geneva to sign all documents that ensure a political solution to the conflict in Afghanistan, said Afghan Ambassador Mohammad Shafi Azimi.

In a press conference held here today on the Feb. 8, 1988 statement of President Najibullah on a political solution to the Afghan issue, the Afghan ambassador denounced the extremists for hindering the signing of peace agreements in Geneva.

He took this opportunity to express thanks to the fraternal Vietnamese Government and people for their whole-hearted support to the Afghan people.

Hanoi Commemorates PRK Friendship Treaty BK251558 Hanoi VNA in English 1532 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb.25—A get together was held here today in honor of the 9th anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam-Kampuchea Treaty of Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation.

It was sponsored by the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples and the Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Association (V.K.F.A).

Prominent among the participants were Nguyen Thi Binh, member of the Presidium of the Committee and deputy head of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and Nhoung Heng Chou, Kampuchean charge d'affaires ad interim in Vietnam.

Taking the floor, Pham Hao, vice president of the V.K.F.A, and the Kampuchean charge d'affaires reviewed the implementation of the treaty over the past 9 years. They noted that Vietnam had cooperated with Kampuchea and given it generous, selfless assistance, thus making important contributions to the revival of the Kampuchean people, restoring and developing their economy.

They expressed their confidence that the special friendship and all-sided cooperation between Vietnam and Kampuchea will further consolidate and develop, thus strengthening the strength of the three Indochinese countries and contributing to building Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation.

Joint Research Section Set Up With USSR BK161013 Hanoi VNA in English 0730 GMT 16 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 16—A Vietnamese-Soviet joint section specializing in growing and processing algae has been set up in Haiphong by the city's Research Institute of Aquatic Products and the Institute of Fishery and Oceanology for the Pacific (TINRO) in the Soviet fareastern seaport of Vladivostok.

The section will conduct researches on growing this kind of seaweed along the coastal waters of Vietnam, perfecting the industrial process of replanting it in inland lakes, and producing high-quality algae.

Cuban Computer Used for Ecological Research WA261411 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Jan 88 p 4

Over the past few years, the No 1 Agricultural College, with the help of Cuba, has developed a computer system for ecological and agricultural research.

This system is based on a Cuban-made CID-3000 third generation minicomputer with 64K of memory and running under the FOBOS operating system, handling both machine language and higher level language programs. The peripherals available include paper tape punch/reader, card punch and card reader equipment.

Experience has shown that computers not only provide accurate results, but also suggest a number of lines of research into our present ecological and agricultural problems.

Coal Industry Faces 'Shrinking' Deposits BK180216 Hong Kong AFP in English 0125 GMT 18 Feb 88

[By Giles Campion]

[Text] Hong Gai, Vietnam, Feb 18 (AFP)—Vietnam's coal industry is facing a crisis of shrinking coal deposits, according to an industry official.

"During the 1970's you only had to extract three to four cubic metres of earth to obtain a ton of coal," said Nguyen Ngoc Buu, external relations officer with the Hong Gai Coal Co. in northeast Vietnam.

"Today we need to mine twice that amount with the same equipment.

"The geological conditions have changed... 80 percent of Vietnam's coal mines are open-cast, but deposits are getting deeper and high quality coal is a long way down," he said.

"Therefore we need to search for new deposits and above all to import sophisticated equipment."

Coal is Vietnam's main energy resource and one of its principal exports.

But production has stagnated for a few years at some six million tons after plummeting to 5.2 million tons in 1984 following technical and labour problems.

Vice Premier Vo Van Kiet said in December that the coal production target of 6.1 million tons had been attained in 1987.

Deposits are mainly concentrated in Quang Ninh Province and mined by three companies—Hong Gai, Cam Pha and Uong Bi. Smaller mines are scattered throughout the north and managed by the Coal Co. No 3.

In open-cast mines, where work is mechanised, 80 to 90 percent of the excavation machines and transport vehicles are Soviet-made, the rest largely Japanese.

In underground mines mining is manual and mechanical—with the aid of Soviet and Polish machinery, Mr. Buu said.

"Soviet experts based in Hong Gai visit the mines every week to check the equipment and give advice on its utilisation," he said.

The Soviet Union, South Korea, Japan and Belgium are the main importers of Vietnamese coal.

"But less than a million tons is exported each year," Mr. Buu said, "and (output of) high quality coal, which is demanded by foreign clients and sells at 100 dollars a ton, is constantly falling."

The foreign shipments set off from the ports of Hong Gai and Cam Pha.

Although Hanoi and Seoul have no diplomatic relations, South Korean vessels enter Vietnamese waters regularly and their crews are even allowed to disembark and spend the night at the "Seamen's Club" in Ha Long.

Mr. Buu stressed that production levels could not go up unless they discovered new deposits and updated production methods.

"French, British and Japanese companies have already contacted us, but no agreements have been signed yet," he said.

But foreign teams are expensive and the government does not even have enough money to pay its own workers, the official communist party newspaper NHAN DAN reported recently.

It said that during the fourth quarter of 1987, miners received only half their salary and nothing in January 1988.

"We increased salaries in mid-1987... But the workers judged this rise to be insufficient and now it is up to Hanoi to decide," Mr. Buu said.

According to Duong Mac, director of the Ha Tu mine, a worker who drives a machine which extracts 800 cubic metres of earth in an eight-hour day earns an average of 1,500 dong (four U.S. dollars) a month, with one day off a week.

A miner who works a six-hour day underground 23 days a month is paid about 2,000 dong (5.40 dollars), and receives subsidies for rice, sugar etc.

"Working conditions and the risks of mining justify a much higher wage," Mr. Buu said, adding that several serious accidents had taken place underground.

A recent government decision to allow coal companies to retain 90 percent of foreign currency earnings could help coal firms solve some of their most immediate needs.

Army Paper Marks CPV's 30th Anniversary BK221143 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Feb 88 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Constantly Strive To Live Up to the Glorious Tradition and the New Historic Mandate"]

[Text] In 1960, at a ceremony commemorating the 30th anniversary of the founding of the party, Uncle Ho asserted: "With all modesty as revolutionaries, we have the right to say that our party is truly great... The party's 30-year-old history is truly a golden history."

This assertion has been proven correct through countless brilliant victories and glorious achievements scored during the course of the revolution.

Since 1930, upholding the banner of national independence and socialism, our party has continued to lead our entire people who succeeded in carrying out the historic August revolution, in defeating many archimperialist countries, regaining national independence and freedom, and ushering in an era in which the entire country is advancing toward socialism. Our party is absolutely loyal to the nation's revolutionary cause. It has closely attached itself to the people, has regarded the people as its foundation, has made sacrifices and fought for the sake of the people, has always placed the interests of the class, people, and nation above all, and has upheld its exemplary vanguard "party members go first, the people

follow suit" role. To our people, our party is something sacred; they regard it as an absolute belief and also a guiding light toward a bright future.

Along with asserting that the resistance would certainly be victorious and independence would certainly be achieved, Uncle Ho pointed out at the ceremony marking the party's 30th anniversary an important thing: "Defeating imperialism and feudalism may be relatively easy to win over poverty and backwardness will be very difficult." Nine years later (in 1969), in his sacred testament, the uncle left behind this heartfelt advice for our party: "Our party is a ruling party. Each party cadre and member must be truly imbued with revolutionary ethics and be truly frugal, honest, upright and just. The party must be kept truly clean so it can be worthy of being a leader and also a faithful servant of the people." In this respect, over the past 10 years—the 10 years of direct struggle against "poverty and backwardness"-we have been all the more aware of the wisdom of this advice from Uncle Ho. In this new struggle, while failing to bring our party up to the level that its duties require, we have committed shortcomings in building the party into a powerful ruling party with close attachment with the people. Certain successes apart, our party has committed irregularities and shortcomings in leadership and management. Our country still has great socioeconomic difficulties. One of the reasons for this is a lack of militancy on the part of the party, most clearly seen in declining revolutionary qualities in a significant segment of party cadres and members.

It is on the basis of the Sixth CPV Congress' evaluation of the situation that the party Central Committee Political Bureau has launched a movement to "purify and impove the militancy of party organizations and state apparatus and to make social relations healthy." This is a major political drive for the entire party in which all those honest and enthusiastic party cadres and members must devote their minds to implementing it if the best results are to be attained.

"As long as there is a Vietnamese being exploited or impoverished, the party will continue to feel saddened, regarding this as a failure to fulfill its duty." This statement made by Uncle Ho 28 years ago remains as fresh now as if he were talking about the present-day national situation. A host of questions now facing party members is food for thought. Why do our people now have to face poverty? Why have many people continued to fall victim to undemocratic, vindictive, and exploitive actions? Why have serious negative phenomena continued to arise and develop in society? Certainly there are many objective reasons for this. But we cannot blame all these things on objective reasons. Facing the truth squarely, party cadres and members must first realize what Uncle Ho said: "It is because of our failure to fulfill our duty and because of the laxity of our study, training, indoctrination, and management efforts that in one area or another, there are "revolutionary mandarins" and "tyrants" abusing the name of party members in discrediting the party, keeping the party in the state of sluggishness, and weakening the party's militancy."

Faced with this situation, it is necessary to urgently and openly launch a motivation drive to "purify and improve the militancy of the party and the state apparatus and to make social relations healthy" under which efforts must be made to face the truth squarely, sternly carry out self-critism, resolutely overcome shortcomings, and redress errors committed by our party.

This is a bold revolutionary attitude to be adopted by every genuine Marxist-Leninist party member. This is also the heavy duty of every party cadre and member toward the destiny of the country, the glorious tradition of the party, and the earnest desire of the entire people.

This is what we have learned from the revolution since 1930: A pure, firm, and strong Leninist-Marxist party provides the necessary conditions for a widespread and deep-rooted mass movement and this constitutes the most important factor for victory. This is also what we have learned from the past 10 years or so: If party members lose their quality and capacity and if the party is impure, then the party's militant strength will be restrained, the people will lose their confidence in the party, and the revolutionary undertaking will inevitably meet with difficulties.

The potentials of our country are not small. Our people love the country and socialism deeply and are hardworking, creative, and intelligent. Yet, in order to have a major combined strength to change the situation, it is of primary importance for the ruling party to be pure, firm, strong, and capable of holding aloft the vanguard banner and overcoming all difficulties in the new revolutionary stage. Our party and people are facing great challenges and difficulties. Yet, the experience derived from a 60-year history indicates that whatever challenges and difficulties we may face, if all cadres and party members are determined to overcome weaknesses and to develop strong points, the party will become firm, strong, and

capable of fulfilling all historic missions. Vigorous renovation is taking place in our country. A democratic and open atmosphere prevails everywhere and is creating very favorable conditions for our party-building work to achieve fine results. It is of decisive importance for all cadres and party members to face the truth boldly and squarely, to conduct criticism and self-criticism scrupulously, and to strive to fulfill their vanguard role in the new revolutionary stage.

The most realistic revolutionary deed of our cadres and party members on the occasion of the party's 58th birthday is to try their best to firmly adhere to their noble party membership and to make our party's "golden history" shine brilliantly forever.

Briefs

Soviet Fertilizer Aid

From now to 1990, the Soviet Union will help the Vietnam chemical sector by investing in some major projects to effectively solve the problem of a shortage of fertilizer in agricultural production. According to plans, the Lao Cai apartite mine and the Lam Thao superphosphate factory will be enlarged and upgraded. The Soviets also have started construction of the Long Thanh superphosphate plant in southern Vietnam and developed some fertilizer producing centers in other localities. This year, the Soviets will try to turn out 450,000 tonnes of fertilizer to help achieve the target of 90 [figure as heard] tonnes of starched food. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Feb 88 BK]

Ha Nam Ninh Shipbuilding

Hanoi VNA Feb.8—The Nghia Hung Shipyard in Ha Nam Ninh Province, south of Hanoi, has been launching one coastal vessel each month. Ships built in Nghia Hung have a freight capacity ranging from several dozen to several hundred tons. The shipyard now can not only meet the local demands but also supply ships to other provinces. [Excerpt] [Hanoi VNA English 0708 GMT 8 Feb 88 BK]

Australia

Further on French Defense Minister Visit PM251208 Paris LE MONDE in French 24 Feb 88 p 3

[Patrice de Beer dispatch: "Dialogue with Canberra Restored but Disagreements Remain"]

[Text] Canberra—"Mitterrand equals Waldheim." "Giraud, representative of French terrorism." Andre Giraud's visit to Australia has not won over the anticolonialist and antinuclear militants, around 50 of whom demonstrated outside the French Embassy in Canberra on Monday, 22 February. France does not have a very good press here, and the defense minister had courteous but fairly tough exchanges with Australian journalists about the Chirac government's policy in New Caledonia and the nuclear tests in Mururoa.

Mr Giraud has come to try to improve relations that have been rather strained, especially since the "freeze" on ministerial contacts with Canberra imposed by Mr Chirac from the end of 1986 to the end of 1987 to protest the "hostility" shown by Mr Hawke's labor government in the United Nations.

Mr Giraud is chairman of the French committee for Australia's bicentenary and its contribution to the ceremonies—totaling Fr10 million—is one of the biggest. He met with the governor general to whom he handed a letter from President Mitterrand expressing the importance attached to this event. His longest and probably most delicate talks were with Kim Beazley, his Australian counterpart, in an atmosphere described first as "businesslike" and then as "friendly" by an Australian source.

Emphasizing more what united the two countries, Mr Giraud emphasized the need for cooperation in the Pacific, although neither side abandoned its positions. This language was acceptable to his interlocutor, particularly because Australia, while wanting New Caledonia to be decolonized, still regards France as a "Pacific power."

Of course, it was impossible for Mr Giraud to compromise on the two points of disagreement or for the Australians to go back on positions on which virtually the whole of public opinion is united and which enjoy overwhelming support from the Pacific states. This probably explains why both sides, to justify the new tone—the "improved relations" of which Mr Giraud spoke—emphasized the fact that it was the "other" that had taken the first step and adopted a more flexible attitude.

On the eve of the arrival in Sydney of the training ship "Jeanne-d'Arc" and of the official opening of the La Perouse Museum on Tuesday, Mr Giraud also had talks

with Senator Evans, acting foreign minister. Although Mr Giraud failed to convince people, he at least demonstrated that dialogue is possible.

Demonstrators Harass Japanese Tourists OW260333 Tokyo KYODO in English 0317 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] Sydney, Australia, Feb. 26 KYODO—Demonstrators opposed to imports of Japanese cement showered a sight-seeing bus carrying Japanese tourists with cement, flour and soft drinks in Sydney, the bus company said Friday.

The incident took place Thursday in the city's business district of Collins where the demonstrators spotted the bus stopping at a traffic signal. It was carrying 17 Japanese.

The demonstrators, from a cement plant in Victoria State, had been on their way to the state government office to protest against Japanese cement imports.

Industry sources said Japanese cement is priced at 37 Australian dollars per ton, compared with a local price of 120 dollars.

Briefs

West Australia Premier Retires

The premier of Western Australia, Mr Brian Burke, retires today after 5 years as state leader. The 41-year-old premier is handing over power to Mr Peter Dowding before taking up a post as Australia's ambassador to Ireland. [Excerpt] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0110 GMT 25 Feb 88 BK]

New Caledonia

French Defense Minister Arrives 24 February BK260739 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Feb 88

[Text] In New Caledonia's capital, Noumea, 11 people were appearing in court today after being questioned by police over a clash on Monday in the northeast of the mainland. More than a dozen police were injured in the clash and 9 were held hostage for up to 12 hours before being released unhurt.

The violence erupted over the building of a hospital on what local people say is tribal land needed for housing. Police say that among those to appear in court was a teacher from France.

France's defense minister, Mr Andre Giraud, flew to New Caledonia on Wednesday night [24 February] after a visit to Australia. After his arrival Mr Giraud congratulated police in the territory for coping with the violence in what he described as a level-headed manner. The minister declared that New Caledonia was a part of France which was particularly dear to its people and no one would compel France to abandon it.

New Zealand

Return of French Agent 'Likely' Demand BK250633 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0510 GMT 25 Feb 88

[Text] The New Zealand foreign minister, Mr Russell Marshall, says his country is likely to demand that one of the French agents involved in the sinking of the Greenpeace protest ship, "Rainbow Warrior," be returned to detention in French Polynesia.

Captain Alain Mafart was one of two French agents sentenced to 10 years jail and later transferred to Hao Atoll under a United Nations-sponsored accord between France and New Zealand.

In December, he was flown to France complaining of stomach pains.

Mr Marshall told a news conference in London that his government was not pressing for Mr Mafart's imminent return, but if medical tests prove Mafart was not seriously ill—and Mr Marshall said he believed this would be the case—then his government would want to discuss a timetable for sending him back.

Briefs

Sport Contacts With USSR

New Zealand and the Soviet Union plan to embark on a wide range of sporting exchanges involving teams, individual athletes, coaches and experts in sports medicine. The agreement has yet to be ratified, but the Minister of Recreation and Sport, Mr Tapsell, and the chairman of the Hillary Commission for Recreation and Sport, Sir Ronald Scott, are confident it will be, after a short visit to the Soviet Union. Mr Tapsell said in Moscow: "We will consider this agreement as soon as possible and I believe we have to agree with it." The draft agreement provides for teams and individuals to take part in bilateral and multilateral competition. There will be joint training programmes, involving the exchange of coaches, scientists and specialists. [Excerpt] [Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 20 Feb 88 p 1 BK1

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and Radio (and member of the CPSU Central Committee), and Yevgeniy Primakov, director of the World Economics and International Relations Institute (and alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee).

Chief Gerasimov and Chairman Aksenov are expected to hold consultations with those who are involved in broadcasting circles in Japan and Director Primakov will visit Japan to attend the sixth plenary session of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference (PECC). During their stay in Japan, all the three officials are expected to have contacts with Japanese Government officials.

Both Mr Gerasimov and Mr Aksenov have been faithfully relaying CPSU General Secretary Gorbachev's intentions. As Mr Primakov is known as one of the general secretary's advisers in foreign affairs, these three leaders may probably be visiting Japan to "feel out" Japan on the general secretary's visit to Japan that is expected to materialize in the near future.

Among the three leaders, Mr Gerasimov will be the first to visit Japan. When the summit talks were held between the Soviet Union and the United States or talks were held between the foreign ministers of the two countries, he served as the spokesman for the Soviet side. Furthermore, he has regularly held news conferences. In this connection, Mr Gerasimov is well known among those who are connected with the mass media in the West. Mr Gerasimov is scheduled to stay in Japan from 25 to 28 February, and he is also expected to hold consultations with Director Watanabe of the Foreign Ministry's European and Oceanic Affairs Bureau on 27 February.

As Mr Akesnov is also a member of the Council of Ministers, he holds the highest position among the three leaders who are scheduled to visit Japan this time. He is expected to arrive in Japan on 2 March.

Mr Primakov will attend, as the Soviet delegate, the PECC plenary session scheduled to be held at a hotel in Osaka from 18 to 20 May. This will be the second time for the Soviet delegates to attend the conference since its presence at the fifth plenary session held in Vancouver in November, 1986. However, this will be the first time that a Soviet delegate dispatched from the home country will attend the session.

The PECC is composed of delegates from government, economic, and academic circles. Former Foreign Minister Saburo Okita serves as chairman of the Japan Committee. Among those delegates to attend the conference as full members are the delegations from 13 countries and 2 regions, including Japan, the United States, China, and the ROK. As the Soviet Union is not a full member, its delegation will attend the conference as guests. However, it is generally observed that in dispatching Mr Primakov, one of General Secretary Gorbachev's advisers, the Soviet Union has indicated its desire to advance into the Pacific Ocean.

USSR Foreign Ministry's Gerasimov Arrives OW261131 Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese 26 Feb 88 Morning Edition p 2—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Department of the USSR [Foreign Ministry], arrived at Narita Airport by Aeroflot on the morning of 25 February for a visit to Japan. The highest Soviet official dealing with news media, Gerasimov is scheduled to stay in Japan until 28 February. On 27 February, he is scheduled to meet with Kazutoshi Tanigawa, director general of the Foreign Ministry's European and Oceanic Affairs Bureau, for lunch.

U.S. Delegation Dissatisfied With Talks OW250201 Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 24 Feb 88 p 3—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[By Emiko Ohki, staff writer]

[Text] A special U.S. trade delegation left for home last weekend dissatisfied, after four days of talks with Japanese officials, because they failed to win greater concessions for foreign companies' participation in large-scale public works projects in Japan.

The main reason for the U.S. dissatisfaction is that the Japanese proposal did not include measures that ensure foreign companies' participation in design, construction and management of terminal buildings at the Tokyo International Airport in Haneda and the Hiroshima Airport.

The U.S. officials, led by Michael Farren, deputy undersecretary of commerce for international trade, were not happy with the Japanese explanations that such airport terminal buildings are built by private companies and the government cannot force private companies to give special advantage to American firms.

The Japanese officials said that airport terminal buildings have long been excluded from the category of public works under the Japanese system, although the airport construction is a public works project.

"There was a gap between our perception of public works. The U.S. side did not understand why construction of airport terminals is excluded from our proposal (of six public works projects in which U.S. contractors will be allowed to bid)," Tsuneharu Hattori, of the Transport Minister's secretariat, said Tuesday.

All construction and management of airport terminal buildings in Japan, except the new Tokyo International Airport, have been commissioned to private companies, or the so-called third-sector—Made up of private companies and local government—since the Airport Development Law was enacted in 1956.

"It is because management of an airport terminal building is profitable business. We build runways, aprons, roads, waterways and lighting systems, which are not profit able, with the national budget," Takeshige Sasaki, chief of Aerodrome Department of the Transport Ministry said.

Japan Airport Terminal Co., which built and manages Tokyo International Airport, had a profit of Y40.7 billion in fiscal 1987, mostly from sales and rent from about 60 shops and restaurants in the terminal building.

Sasaki says it is possible for foreign companies to participate in the construction of the two airports' terminal buildings even under the present system.

"They are open to both Japanese and foreign companies," he said.

But in reality, it is not easy for foreign companies to compete fairly with well-established Japanese firms.

"Considering the size of the project and the fact that there are detailed regulations for the construction of airports, we would like to allow a Japanese contractor with experience building this type of airport to build the new terminal," a spokesman for Japan Airport Terminal Co. said.

According to the spokesman, the west wing of a new terminal is scheduled to be completed in 1992 and the east wing will be open in 1995.

A Japanese company has already begun drawing up a basic design of the west wing.

"We will treat foreign firms equally with Japanese companies in the bidding process for communication and announcement systems to be installed in the new terminal building," the spokesman said.

"But so far, no foreign companies have shown interest," he added.

Deadline Set for Report on New Capital OW260041 Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 25 Feb 88 p 1—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] A panel of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party will compile a report by 1991 on the relocation of the capital from Tokyo, LDP officials said Wednesday.

The report will cover alternative venues for a new capital, costs for relocation and organization3 to be moved, the officials said. It will also explore the less drastic alternative of transferring more administrative functions from Tokyo to other locations.

About 100 Diet members attended the general meeting of the LDP panel, which is headed by Shin Kanemaru, a former deputy prime minister.

The party subcommittee, to which over 200 Diet members belong, agreed to send inspection missions to Osaka Sendai, Sapporo, Nagoya and Fukuoka, the officials said.

Last week, Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita told the Cabinet that the government will begin studies to move the capital from tokyo and also promote moving government functions out of Tokyo.

During last year's LDP presidential election campaign, Takeshita set forth what he called the "furusato" creation (provincial development) concept, which is designed to develop provincial areas and decentralize government and business functions.

Nearly one-third of Japan's 120 million people live in Tokyo and its vicinity. An excessive political and economic concentration into Tokyo has worsened living conditions and caused extremely high real estate prices, according to experts on urban problems.

South Korea

Takeshita, Baker Praise G-7 December Accord OW251439 Tokyo JIJI in English 1235 GMT 25 Feb 88—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 25 (JIJI PRESS)—Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker Thursday shared the view that the Group of Seven agreement last December is producing intended results in fostering exchange rate stability and promoting economic policy coordination among major industrial nations.

They reviewed currency market developments and other economic issues since the G-7 meeting in Washington on Dec. 22 and the summit talks between Takeshita and U.S. President Ronald Reagan in January during Baker's courtesy call on Takeshita in the morning, Japanese officials said.

Both Takeshita and Baker are in Seoul to attend an inauguration ceremony for new South Korean President No Tae-U.

Baker conveyed to Takeshita Reagan's message, in which the President said he is satisfied with the results of their Washington meeting last month and is looking forward to meeting Takeshita again in Toronto, Canada, where this year's summit of seven industrial countries will be held in June, Japanese officials said. Paper Reports on Direct Trade With USSR OW251131 Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN in Japanese 24 Feb 88 Morning Edition p 1—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] An informed source disclosed on 23 February that South Korea and the Soviet Union, which have no diplomatic relations, have begun trade on a considerably large scale through practically direct transactions.

With the Seoul Olympics scheduled for this autumn, South Korea has been rapidly developing economic relations with China and Eastern Europe. The ROK-Soviet rapprochement in the economic sector is expected not only to accelerate this trend but to invigorate East-West economic exchange, which is drawing public attention as signifying a new detente.

According to the same source, transactions are conducted by means of third-country vessels, using the Soviet port of Nakhodka and the South Korean port of Pusan as the main points of contact, and taking the form of tripartite trade through the mediation of Japanese trading houses and others.

Goods South Korea imports from the Soviet Union are mainly raw materials including lumber, aquatic products, coal, and fertilizer, while South Korea chiefly exports textiles, garments, and other items to the Soviet Union.

Officials concerned believe that, with exports from Japan to the Soviet Union becoming comparatively expensive due to the strong yen, South Korean exports of home electric appliances and machinery to the Soviet will most likely increase, replacing such exports from Japan.

Neither South Korea nor the Soviet Union have officially acknowledged the existence of bilateral trade, although they have been trading with each other since the early eighties in the form of re-exports via Japan, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

According to trading house sources, however, it was during the past year that their trade has become full-fledged with ships directly visiting each other's country. It appears that, in the background, there have been approaches made to the Soviet Union by South Korea, which hopes that as many as possible Eastern bloc nations will participate in the Olympics.

In the absence of official statistics, the amount of trade between the two countries is unclear, but a major trading house official said, "Judging from remarks made by South Korean officials concerned, lately this trade has increased considerably and it is possible that the total amount has already reached almost \$1 billion a year." In terms of procedures, however, their trade is being made to appear as if it is going through Japan or other third countries.

When a Japanese trading house acts as an intermediary, for instance, it would obtain a bill of lading to Japan when exporting goods from either South Korea or the Soviet Union. At the same time, it also would obtain a bill of lading from Japan to the two countries.

Since COCOM [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] regulations and other export inspection procedures are strictly enforced in Japan, many Japanese trading houses reportedly try to increase business efficiency by having their local affiliates in Hong Kong or Singapore obtain the necessary documents.

The view is also gaining force among Japanese officials concerned that ROK-Soviet economic exchange by way of East European nations will become more brisk in the days ahead.

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